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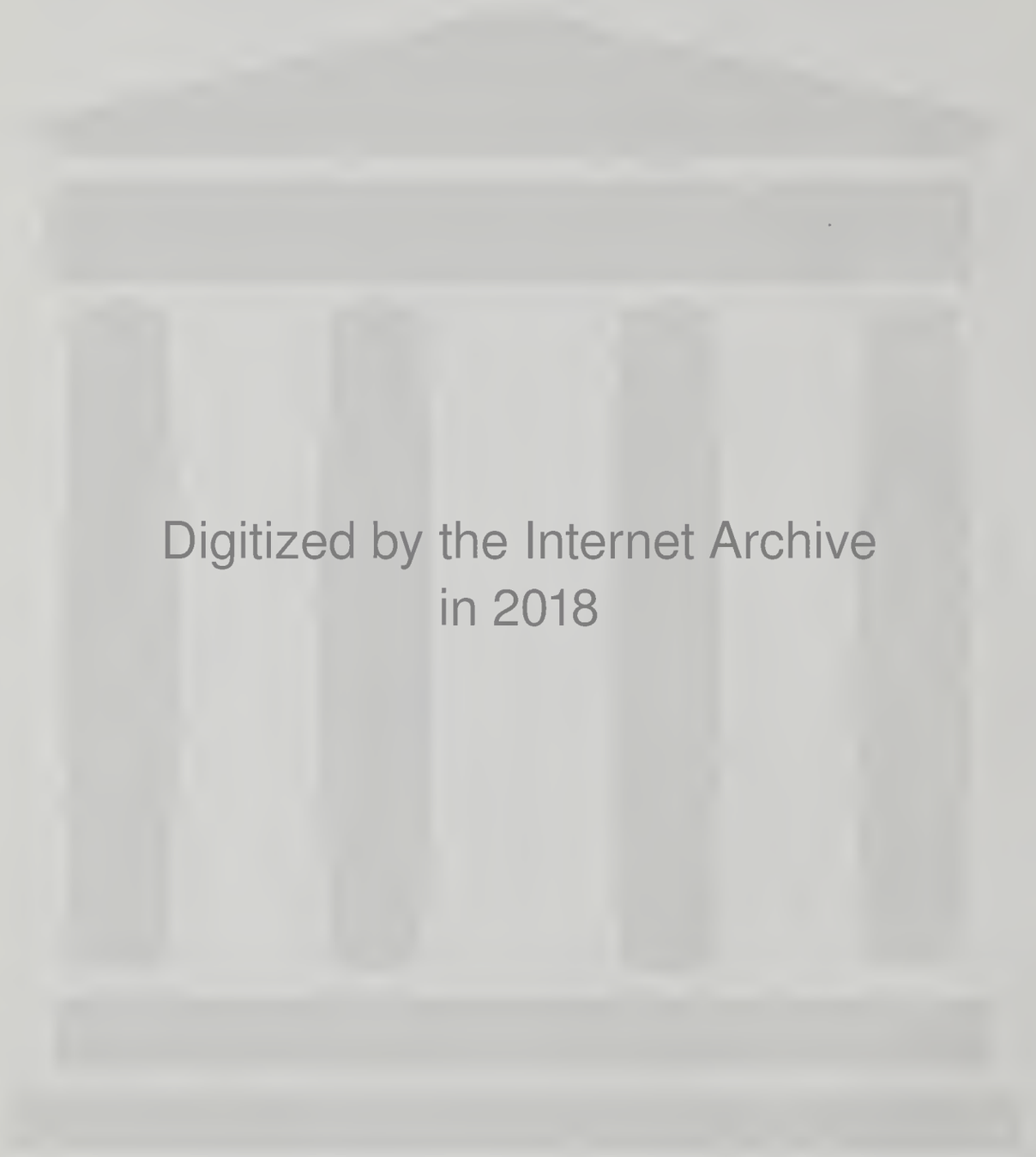
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TO MY BIRKHOLD RELATIVES

By

Hettie Stephenson-Smith

Allen County Public Library
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

TO MY BIRKHOLD RELATIVES
by
Hettie Stephenson-Smith,
daughter of
Christena Elizabeth Birkhold
married to
Marion Whitmer Stephenson.

The first annual reunion of the Birkhold Family was held at the home of Sam and Mollie Birkhold-Stahler, which they had purchased from Dr. John and Lucinda-Birkhold Harrod-the house having been built by them-and has been held every year since that time, mostly in the Kilpatrick Grove.

Previous to the 1941 reunion, being of an inquisitive mind and anxious to learn of the early life of my grandparents asked for information from my mother, Aunt Mollie, Aunt Lucinda, Uncle Dave, Uncle George and Uncle Henry, the latter giving me the most information, and from all the data obtained I compiled a little history which I read at that reunion.

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At the 1952 reunion the idea of using this as a nucleus and adding to it a little history of the family of each of our grandparents children was discussed and it was voted that this be done, and many mimeographed copies made and distributed to those interested-which Carolus Birkhold, grandson of David, volunteered he would look after having done-and, if possible be ready for distribution at the 1953 reunion, which would be just 100 years after our grandparents had come to AMERICA. Some desired information not having been obtained by the 1953 reunion, it was held open for another year.

There is included copy of letter from Aunt Mollie to me, in reply to my inquiry as to birthplace of my mother; also one in reply to inquiry about relatives of either of our grandparents, who might have come to America; and one in reply to request for copy of obituaries of our grandparents, all of which contain interesting details and which I feel you will enjoy reading.

Also is included copy of songs composed and sung by "The Ankney Sisters," Vera, Esther and Leona-granddaughters of David and Margaret (Schrader) Birkhold, at the 1953 centennial reunion.

While in 1954 it is not yet complete with regard to several families, I made diligent and conscientious effort to obtain the needed data and have given all information furnished me. I have spent much time and energy and some money, which has been freely given, gathering the data; it was a pleasant task and I hope you will enjoy reading it. If we cannot meet personally as often as we would like, we can read this history and become somewhat acquainted and have a feeling of nearness and relationship.

Many do not record family history as it is being made, which should be done for those who come after us and I sincerely hope that all will do their part to keep this up to date by reporting to the secretary births, marriages and deaths as they occur, and any interesting thing about any family or person.

I am proud of my Birkhold grandparents and their descendants. Our grandparents left us an enviable heritage of courage, thrift, honesty and industriousness and I feel that if they could know that we have fairly well followed in their footsteps-at least there has never been a criminal in the family-it would be a source of pride and satisfaction.

May we emulate their principles by doing the best we can, with what we have, where we are.

Hettie Stephenson-Smith, typist
Carolus Birkhold, mimeographer

Mr. Strecker was either related to or a good friend of a pioneer family in Paulding County, Ohio, by the name of Ignatius Lotthammer, and through him they learned of the wonderful country called "The Black Swamp." Desirous of procuring a home of their own, the Birkhold's decided to go to Paulding County and on Jan. 1 186 , they reached the Lotthammer home, where they were taken care of until other arrangements could be made. A short time thereafter they purchased forty acres of virgin timber land of Mr. Isaac Snyder, who was their nearest neighbor, for Four Dollars per acre, which then was a fabulous price, paying for for it later, of course. This land had mammoth timber on it-some oak trees six feet in diameter, plenty of ash, elm, cottonwood, etc. If this land were in its virgin state today it would be worth as much as 500 acres in its present state.

Building a house on the land was the next thing of importance and a large, modern house it was for those days; about thirty feet square, made from logs from their own forest, two stories high and with two rooms, one up and one down. The room downstairs was the parlor, sitting room, kitchen and sleeping room for the parents, and in addition to all this in the winter was used as a workroom for the making of flat hoops. These were made from black ash and used in the manufacture of wooden barrels. The tools used to make them were a frow, draw-knife, shaving horse, mallet, racking horse and a frame used to put them in bundles. The room upstairs was used for a bedroom too. There were two outside doors, one front and one rear, and two windows. There were no oak floors or wood trim but the house was covered with oak shingles about four feet long-clapboards they were called. As there were no nails then the only way to hold the clapboards in place was to put a long log about six or eight inches in diameter on each tier of clapboards, and then they sure did stay put. To the Birkhold family this was truly a palace in the wilderness, large and commodious enough to provide for their needs and one from which no beggar was ever turned away unfed and, when necessary, shelter was provided for the night.

Henry was the first child born in this new home and, of course, it was the birthplace of all the younger children. John and Barbara were parents of fourteen children, eleven of whom lived to be married and parents of children.

For meat, the family depended mostly upon hunting and trapping, but John was not good at either. During their first years they had only small patches of ground on which they could raise anything but Mr. Snyder, from whom they had purchased the land, lived on the bank of the creek and could raise corn every year and would loan them enough to tide them over, providing two bushels were returned for every one bushel borrowed. Had it not been for the many kindnesses of the Snyder's the Birkhold's would have found the task of eking out an existence much more difficult than it was and they might even have starved. Lack of drainage and disposal of the timber were two of the problems that hindered the rapid advancement of the pioneers. For a number of years blind ditches were made, as they were called then, from poles and oak plank, made from the choicest oak.

Barbara carded wool, spun it into yarn, then knit it into socks and stockings for the entire family, each person having two pairs. She could not sew but some of the neighbors could not knit, so they exchanged sewing and knitting. Instead of woolen blankets and comforters, they slept between feather beds-not down comforts. Once a year John would walk to Ft. Wayne, a distance of 22 miles, through the woods with the trail blazed, to buy footwear for his large family. To get the size of shoes, he took a stick the length of the foot of each one in need of shoes. He would leave shortly after midnight and return about the same time the following night, looking like a veritable Santa Claus, with all the packages hung about his neck and shoulders, and usually the entire family waited up to see the new purchases.

There were no doctors at that time-that is those who had graduated from medical college as such-but some persons knew the supposed healing qualities of the different native roots and herbs and how to use them in treating the sick. When there were

any broken limbs or gunshot wounds, most anybody could take care of them, or did. The first doctor in the community was a Dr. Reed, but he was more of a horse trader than a doctor. He made his own medicines, with only a few exceptions, recommending Hostetter's Stomach Bitters and quinine for the ague, which was their worst malady. Dr. Reed's best known remedies were made from yellow bergoon root, prickly ash and wild cherry bark, boneset tea and Pennyroyal.

In the vicinity lived four noble and good women--Mrs. Rinehart Yearling, Mrs. Emily Snyder, Mrs. Lucinda Boyer and Mrs. Barbara Birkhold, our grandmother. Mrs. Boyer was our grandmother's best pal, a seamstress and surely a noble woman. These four grand women were mother and nurse for the entire neighborhood, always ready and willing to lend a helping hand to anyone sick or needing help in any way. Barbara would not wait to be asked but immediately she heard of a need she would go at once and stay as long as she could be of any service,often going long distances through the woods and often carrying a ham of meat or whatever else they could spare from their not too bountiful supply. It made no difference if friend or foe, she went. The other ladies mentioned did similarly.

The first schoolhouse built in this part of Paulding County was located on what is now the Kilpatrick Camp Grounds, where this reunion is being held. It was built of logs and looked much like the Birkhold Mansion, previously described. There were no desks but benches made of plank split from oak logs and often had plenty of splinters to keep the pupils from moving from one end to the other. The length of school term varied according to the money available, sometimes four months, sometimes less. The principal handicap was that the patrons of the school were too poor to buy books and otherschool necessities. The slate was the only writing material of those days. Books, pens, pencils and fool-cap paper were school luxuries. Henry says he remembers well that the first school book he had was a Third Reader,the next a Fifth Reader. Each pupil had to wait until his turn came to use the different books. Teachers of those days weregreat in teaching the rudiments; for example, when a pupil learned a letter the next thing was to learn its different sounds, then the diacritical marks, how to make them and the sound they indicated-- which is now not taught until in the high schools.

Paulding County was surely the wettest county in the state. In the spring it would rain incessantly for days and sometimes for weeks the ground would be all covered over with water and would look like a lake and would remain so until the summer sun dried it up. Sometimes it would be July before any corn could be planted and when some corn could be raised they could not sell it, as there were no elevators and no market for it. John Birkhold was the champion corn raiser of the community, as his experience with the Strecker's had taught him how to raise corn. He would store the excess corn in rail pens and sometimes would have as much as four or five pens of excess corn.

In 1872 a new frame house was built, which was really quite a pretentious home and which is still standing, although the outside has been stuccoed, but the arrangement of the rooms is still as when originally built.

George Birkhold was the pioneer drain tile manufacturer of the county. At one time he had gone to Logan County, Ohio, near the home of his sister Christena, to work for a Mr. John Culp in his tile mill.Finally he purchased a tile mill discarded by Mr. Culp and brought it and put it up on his father's farm, not far from the homesite, and started to manufacture tile. Thus begun the more rapid drainage of the land and increased productivity.

John and Barbara finally owned 160 acres of land, all in one body and free from debt. 122 acres of this, including the homesite and house built in 1872, is owned by the youngest daughter, Lucinda; the balance is owned by George. Some of the land was purchased from the government.

John and Barbara were devout Christians of the Lutheran faith. When coming to America they brought with them a Bible, Hymnal, Book of Prayers and a Book of Sermons. For a long period of time there was no church in the vicinity but John and Barbara saw that their children were instructed in their catachism, taught to observe the Sabbath, and on Sunday morning while the women prepared the breakfast, done the dishes, etc., the men and boys greased the shoes and boots, in addition to doing the outside work, and then all gathered around in a circle to hear John conduct religious services, which were often attended by friends and neighbors. Finally, in the year 1873, a Lutheran church was started in Payne, Ohio, and John and Barbara were among the principal subscribers. The first communion service was held on Aug. 24, 1873, and was composed of the following families: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boyer, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Birkhold, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mikle, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. John Anspach, Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart Yearling, Mr. and Mrs. F. White, Mr. and Mrs. J. Stabler and children, Miss Mary Boovie, sweetheart and later wife of Christian Birkhold-in all eight families. Barbara passed on before the Lutheran church was completed and her funeral was held in the Methodist Church, but the funeral of John was held in the Lutheran Church. Both were laid to rest in the Lehman Cemetery.

Letter from Aunt Mollie to Hettie Stephenson-Smith, in reply to inquiry about birthplace of Christena, mother of Hettie.

Feb. 2, 1953

Dear Hettie:

So glad to hear from you. Your mother was born in Erie County, near Belleview, Ohio, as they lived in the country. Sandusky was the nearest place for shopping, if they had anything to shop with.

Your mother was married at home by Squire George Bowers. I'll never forget the day. I had to cry and I didn't want anyone to see me cry and I crawled out of the bedroom window. They were married March 18, 1880.

We had a big wedding for both of the older girls. When Cinda was married I got the dinner. Dr. and Rev. Sam Williams made his morning route and stopped at the Birkhold home, then Mollie had to run upstairs and put on the red plush dress and I was bridesmaid. Ha! Of course, Sam was there. He was the man to help out. Then when Mollie was married Cinda and Jennie Lehman came to my rescue the day before the wedding and helped. That was a big day, Rev. Wesner married us and Oh, what a belling! When Lena was married I was 15; then I was put in the harness when Mother died I was 17; that summer we had 9 men at the table every meal. Imagine, I baked all the bread we had, that was 3 or 4 times a week, and churned all our butter, the boys did the milking. And I did the washing for all those boys. George had worked at Culp's tile mill in Shelby County at making tile and then he and father bought a tile mill, is why we had so much help.

Do you remember I was the hired girl at your house when Bob was born? You should, as the three of you kids did like to make noise, which I wasn't used to, but we got by.

Our early church-Cinda and I had the boots to wash every Saturday evening, then Sunday morning we greased the boots, ate breakfast, then was time for church. As father had a sermon book, we all sat on chairs and listened to him read a sermon in German, but very few of us could understand German. He always asked the blessing at the table. I learned that by hearing it so often. Later, maybe when I was 10 years old, we walked 3 miles to United Bretheren Sunday School; later it was moved 1 1/2 miles nearer then we didn't have to start so early. The Lutheran minister came by horseback every few months to baptize the new babies and give communion to the older people. The Catholics did the same. That was our earliest days. They started to build our Lutheran Church 68 years ago, but it was not finished when Mother died and her funeral was held in the Methodist Church. For years we had church in the Lehman school house. Mother always went in the big wagon, the boys driving and Father always walked, usually beat the wagon there. We had a spring seat for mother and the driver. Earlier days Mother was put on a chair, then in the wagon, then put the chair in the wagon for her to sit on. She was short and quite heavy, weighed 160 lbs. As long as she was able she never missed going to church and funerals, if the roads were passable. I remember seeing funerals go by where they could go only 3 or 4 lengths of the wagon then stopped and had a long pole to poke the mud out of the wheels. My, what a time to get where you wanted to go! We never owned a buggy before Mother died. We borrowed a spring wagon for her funeral then later Daddy bought one-not a new one.

The way we got out shoes-our feet were all measured with a little stick and he fit those sticks in the shoes. Father would start from here at midnight to be in Ft. Wayne by the time stores would open up, buy the shoes, start home and get home before morning. One time they started to Ft. Waybe in a bobsled and way up in the woods they had a break-down with the sled and there was a log house near so mother

and the child she had with them went in out of the cold. The woman said, "I wish you wouldn't come in". Mother asked "Why" and the woman told her that there was a case of small pox in their house. Mother said she wasn't afraid and asked to see the patient and she went in and talked to the girl, but didn't take the child in, and she didn't take it. Mother always went to see sick people.

Mother never turned anybody from the door. When we lived in the log house she often would put a pad of some kind back of the stove for strangers to sleep on. We always had plenty of stove wood.

The hogs ran wild in the woods. Each family had their mark so they would know which ones were theirs. Our mark was a hole in one ear and slit in the other and that was on record. In the fall they would fatten up eating hickory nuts, acorns and beech nuts. But we had nothing for bread. Dave told me this, that the preacher came and said he needed money; Daddy said he had no money but that there was a sack of corn there he could have and the preacher said he would take that. Dave said we kids didn't feel too good about that, not knowing where we would get the next sack of corn. Snyder's and Yearling's were the only ones who could raise corn near us as they lived near the creek and they had patches cleared and trenched the water to the creek. When they would let us have one sack of corn we always had to pay it back with two sacks. When we first had some cleared and ditches along the roads, they cut trenches, then cut poles and laid in there, then sawed logs short to lay in those trenches, then split those with the broad axe and put the dirt back to cover them. Our first pike they cut the poles in 10 or 12 inch lengths and set them endwise. Mother and one of the boys went to Antwerp to mill one time and I went along. Maybe I was 10 or 11 years old then and I sat on the sacks of wheat and I surely got plenty of bumping. That was the only road we could get to mill on.

Henry was the last to get married. Cinda one year before me, then when I tied up Henry and Daddy was with us until Henry got married, then we could go to church in a buggy Sam had, until Ira came along, then it was a surrey with the fringe all around as by then times were some better. It didn't take the money it does nowadays. If we came home Saturday evening with 25 cents we had it when we went back the next Saturday. We always had some butter to sell to buy what was really necessary.

I don't remember of Daddy ever scolding me but Mother did once. Our stove that I had to bake bread on was a peculiar one, 3 holes to cook on and a drum to bake in. The front side would burn the bread and the other side would run over and would take too long to bake. George would tease me so that I would hide a bad loaf and Mother found it and, of course, scolded me. After Mother died I always asked Father if I could go any place and he never refused me but he did Cinda as the boy she was to go with didn't suit Father. He always liked Doc and Sam. One time your mother curled her hair and then he would not let her go where she wanted to go-I was told that. Henry told me that when the family moved to Paulding County they had old horses and when they got as far as Defiance one of the horses died, then one of the boys rode the live horse to Lothamers and got one of their horses and went back and got the goods-about 40 miles. They stayed at the Lothamers until they found an old house to live in-Henry said it was a hogpen-anyway they lived in it until they got the log house built. The new house was built in 1874 and Mother got to live in it about 12 years for which I am glad. One thing, I never heard Mother complain of not having the things she wanted and couldn't have. That makes me more satisfied. The old range or oil stove I was perfectly satisfied with but my kids aren't like that.

Mother never had but one dress-up dress and that was black wool cashmere, with an apron of the same material and whenever she went to church or funerals that was what she wore. Oh, dear! How the kids nowadays put on the style! For me, I don't think it is right; maybe I'm wrong, so we will let it go at that.

Here, we are pretty good. My left eye is giving me trouble but I've used these eyes 84 years and that's a long time. I think I have crocheted too much. I have made nearly 50 of those pansy doilies and lace for 2 pair pillow cases. 'Bye.

Love

Aunt Mollie.

Mother's death was caused by kidney trouble, Father's by stomach trouble. I don't know where their wedding took place.

DIRECT LINEAGE OF
JOHN MATHIAS and MARY BARBARA (SCHOEN) BIRKHOLD

As of date Aug. 22, 1953.

John Mathias Birkhold, father, born June 24, 1821, d. Oct. 17, 1899
aged 78 yr. 3 mo. 23 da.

Mary Barbara (Schoen) Birkhold, born Apr. 12, 1826, d. Apr. 22, 1886
aged 60 yr. 4 da.

CHILDREN:

Mary Catherine, b. Dec. 4, 1847, d. Dec. 27, 1859, aged 12 yr. 23 da.
John Mathias, Jr., b. May 27, 1849, d. Feb. 2, 1850, aged 8 mo. 6 da. b. Germany
Christian B., b. Nov. 1, 1850, d. Sept. 4, 1927, aged 76 yr. 10 mo. 3 da.
John Mathias, Jr., b. May 5, 1852, d. Apr. 14, 1931, aged 78 yr. 11 mo. 9 da.
Minnie B., b. Dec. 11, 1853, d. Jan. 10, 1854, aged 30 da.
Jonathan B., b. Sept. 15, 1855, d. Oct. 6, 1900, aged 45 yr. 21 da.
Charles David, b. Apr. 27, 1857, d. Apr. 6, 1937, aged 79 yr. 11 mo. 10 da.
George B., b. Oct. 17, 1859, d. Oct. 19, 1946, aged 87 yr. 2 da.
Christena Elizabeth, b. Feb. 27, 1861, d. Apr. 23, 1944, aged 83 yr. 1 mo. 27 da.
Mary Magdalen, b. July 10, 1862, d. Sept. 29, 1929, aged 67 yr. 2 mo. 19 da.
Henry, b. Apr. 27, 1864, d. Mar. 30, 1947, aged 83 yr. 11 mo. 28 da.
William Henry, b. Mar. 26, 1867, d. Oct. 21, 1946, died 79 yr. 6 mo. 25 da.
Mary Ann, b. Jan. 16, 1869.
Lucinda, b. Sept. 21, 1871, d. June 17, 1953, died 82 yr. 8 mo. 27 da.

The reason there were two sons named John Mathias, Jr., is that in Germany it was the custom to name the first born son after his father. The first son died within a year after his birth, therefore another son was named for the father, in order to have a living namesake.

Four children were born in Germany, Mary Catherine, John M., Christian B., and John Mathias and John M. was buried in Germany. Mary Catherine and Minnie B. died in Norwalk, Ohio

GRANDCHILDREN:

	Grand Children		Great Gr. Children		Gr. Grt. Gr. Children		Grt.Grt.Grt. Gr. Children	
	Living	Dead	Living	Dead	Living	Dead	Living	Dead
Christian, father	5	3	2		3			
John Mathias, father	4	3	10		14	1		
Jonathan, father	1	1	7	1	16		6	
Charles David, father	2	2	14	1	28	1		
George, father	5	3	10	1	6			
Christena E., mother	5	3	13	2	19		2	
Mary Magdalena, mother	3		3		5			
Henry, father	3	1	?	?	?	?	?	
William Henry, father	2	1	3		6			
Mary Ann, mother	5		12	1	15	1		
Lucinda, mother	1	1	3		?			
	36	18	77	6	112	3	8	

Aug. 23, 1953, there is yet one child living, Mary Ann, "Aunt Mollie", 36 grand children, 77 great grandchildren, 112 great great grandchildren, 8 great great great grandchildren.

274 descendants have been born, 234 still living, 40 haved died.

A Sketch of the pioneer history
of
John Mathias Birkhold, born June 24, 1821
and
Mary Barbara Schoen, born April 12, 1826,
married in Germany, May 4, 1846.
Both were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany.

Compiled and read at the 1941 Birkhold Reunion by Hettie Stephenson-Smith, daughter of Christena Elizabeth Birkhold, married to Marion Whitmer Stephenson, from information given her by her mother, Mollie, Lucinda, David, George and Henry children of John and Barbara Birkhold.

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By 1628 it had been made certain that English colonization of the Atlantic coast could be undertaken with success. Land grants were given to companies to bring people to the colonies in the New World and these lands were sold in smaller parcels to the colonists. Prompted by the desire to escape poverty, fear of religious persecution and the desire to own a home, there began to move from England to America such a migration of people as the world had never seen elsewhere in all recorded history. Gradually news of these opportunities reached other countries of the Old World and migration begsn therefrom.

A brother of John had come to the New World and settled near Cincinnati and through him and other friends who had come to Amorica and settled near Cincinnati, John and Barbara learned of the cheap land to be had, affording an opportunity to own a home and farm on which to earn a living, freedom from military service and many other wonderful opportunities. John had been subjected to military service in the German army, serving seven years for which he received the enormous wage of seven cents a day. Four children were born to John and Barbara in Germany, Mary Catherine, John M., Christien B. and John Mathias; John M. died in Germany and is buried there. That these sons and any other that might be born to them might not be subjected to military service, John and Barbara decided to migrate to America and set sail from Antwerp, Belgium, in 1853 in a sail ship and were 57 days on sea. During the trip the baby, John Mathias, became very ill and the ship doctor thought he would die and the captain of the ship insisted that he be thrown overboard while yet alive to prevent an attack by whales in case of death on the ship, which might overturn the ship. But Barbara pleaded that "as long as there is life there is hope," finally the captain relented and the baby lived to reach the age of 78 years, 11 months and 9 days.

They had purchased tickets to Cincinnati, Ohio-or thought they were doing so-hoping to join the brother there but, for some unknown reason, they were taken to Buffalo, N. Y., instead. Undaunted, however, and believing in the adage, "Try, try again," they again purchased tickets supposedly to Cincinnati, but were put off at Norwalk, Ohio. Here they landed with their three small children, with less than five dollars and no friends. The small amount of goods they had brought with them had been stolen in New York. They could speak no English but the station agent knew a German by the name of Christ Strecker, who lived about ten miles in the country. The agent arranged for Mr. Strecker to come and talk with the immigrants, with the result that Mr. Strecker took them home with him and converted a small sheep barn into living quarters for them. One of their first great problems was necessary furniture and equipment-which did not include electric stoves, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, inner-spring mattresses, radio, television, etc. There was plenty of timber and it was the style then to make your own furniture-but without "Make Your Own Kits." A fireplace in one end of the room furnished heat and the means of cooking the food. The Strecker's and other neighbors helped them with whatever they could spare until other and better could be provided. "Where there is a will there is a way," and they did manage to honestly provide subsistence for their present and increasing family. Five children were born to them during the ten years they lived in this home on the Strecker farm.

Copy of letter from Aunt Mollie to Hettie Stephenson-Smith, in reply to request for copy of obituary, if available.

Apr. 22, 1954

Dear Hettie and Will:

Just a few lines to get this obituary to you. When mother died 13 years earlier there was no Payne paper so no obituary printed. She died on Thursday evening at Lona's. Next day was Good Friday, the 23rd. of April. We had Good Friday that late a few years ago and won't be that late for fifty more years. Mother had been sick all winter and was feeling some better and we borrowed a spring wagon to take her to Lona's for a few days. Mrs. Boyer, her good neighbor, went with her to Lona's to stay a few days. Mother went to sleep and never woke up. She was buried on the 24th. day of April. The 25th. was Easter Sunday and all the relatives were out at the farm home. I was 17 and Cinda was past 14. We were the housekeeper and cooks and I guess we did a good job. Mother was never able to help in the kitchen but she did the patching, which was plenty. George, Bill and Henry were all at home. I quit school when I was 15. Lona got married when I was that age. Cinda went to school a few more years. Times sure are different now. We're not old for years but this old lady don't feel young. I make rugs and am making carpet rags today.

The obituary--it was upstairs here in the big Bible and Lalah brought it down last evening. I hope this will help out some. I think I told all I know once before but it will stand repeating.

Dessie was in a few minutes to see Dale. He isn't so good and wants to go home.

Hope this finds both of you well and happy.

With love,

Aunt Mollie

O B I T U A R Y

of

John Mathias Birkhold

John Mathias Birkhold was born in Steinheim, Heidenheim, State of Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 24th. day of June, 1821. In the year 1853 he emigrated to America, settling in Erie County and in 1864 moving to Paulding County, where he resided until his death. He was married to Miss Mary Barbara Schoon, this union being blessed with fourteen children, three of whom had preceded the father to eternal rest. The deceased's wife died on April 21, 1886. The deceased was a loving husband and kind father, an industrious and faithful laborer, a pious and christian church member, loved and estoemed by all. Having enjoyed good health, the departed began to complain at the beginning of the summer; the physicians were not able to afford help, despite all efforts made; the disease increased two weeks ago and death was a welcome guest Tuesday morning, October 17th, 1899, at 3:25. Cause of death, old age and stomach trouble. He leaves a sister in Iowa, a brother and some relatives in Germany, 7 sons, 4 daughters and 46 grandchildren and a host of friends to mourn his departure. He was blessed with a ripe age-78 years, 3 months and 23 days. Funeral services Thursday, October 19th, at Luthoran Church, Payne, O., Rev. O. M. Bartz officiating.

Copy of letter from Mollie-Birkhold-Stabler to Hettie Stephenson-Smith, replying to her inquiry about any of the brothers or sisters of John and Barbara who might have come to America.

April 28, 1954.

Dear Hettie:

Received your letter a few days ago but I don't know too much about relatives of father and mother who came to America.

Father had a brother John who spent a great deal of time at our home but finally went with some old friends up near Toledo and died there but I don't know the year.

Mother had a sister Mary who came to America and married a Pete Toman. As I remember trip over the water was quite long, about two months. They were married here in the States then left for Iowa. She was of the Lutheran faith and he was a Catholic, so he set his foot down and she had to change her religion and that is why my father did not think too much of the Toman's. But after Christ's first wife died-John wasn't walking yet when his mother died and Christ wasn't married for seven years after his first wife died-Christ had fever or ague and chills and wasn't able to work so mother wrote to the Toman's if Christ could come to Iowa and see if the change would help him and they said for him to come. It did help him and he stayed all summer, then the Toman boy came home with him and worked here for 1 year. The old Pete never came and my father never went there, so that's why I don't know too much about the Toman's, but you remember they were here several years ago for our Reunion. Henry invited them. They stayed one week. Had a very old car but it made the trip as they got home all right. Their town was Des Moines, Ia. I think that is right. It has been a long time since I thought of my Iowa relatives.

I don't know anything about the brother who lived near Cincinnati.

When my father and mother came over they brought lots of clothing and knitting for their three children but that was all taken from them in New York. When they got settled father had by that time $13 so they bought a cow with that money and Daddy walked 18 miles to get in an English settlement so could learn the language. So he worked there, walked home Saturday night and back Sunday night. That's how things were then. They at first lived in a stable but my mother never complained, never turned anyone away if they came to stay all night. She alwasy kept the ones who came. Said she hoped if her boys ever had to ask for night's lodging some place they would be taken in. That's how my parents had it. I don't like to complain as mother never did complain.

Lots of Love,

Aunt Mollie.

CHRISTIAN BIRKHOLD, oldest son of John M. and Mary Barbara Schoen, was born Nov. 7, 1850, in Wirtenberg, Germany. When three years old came to America with his parents. Lived with his parents until 25 years of age, who then were living on a farm they had bought in Paulding County, near Payne, Ohio. March 9, 1875, he married Mary Bouvier, who died June 8, 1877. To this union was born one son, John Franklin. Dec. 20, 1880, he married Florence Emma Shull b. Apr. 20, 1861, Marion Co., Ind. Parents of 7 children: Mary Rozetta, Bertha Joanette, Samuel Oris, Grace Leone, Iva Dot, Walter Cleo. Harry Murrill. Christian passed on Sept. 14, 1927; Florence Emma passed on May 25, 1949. Both are buried in Odd Follow Cemetery, New Haven. Mary Bouvier buried in Sugar Ridge Cemetery. He owned 40 acres 4 1/2 miles southwest of Payne at the time of his second marriage and later bought another 40 acres from Maurice Lothammer. They lived on this farm until the fall of 1900, when they moved to New Haven, Ind., and went into the grocery and meatmarket business which they later sold out and bought property in Ft. Wayne at the corner of South Wayne and Cottage Ave., where they moved and had a grocery and meat market; later sold that and built a new home on Vermont Ave., where they lived until his death; soon thereafter the widow sold this and, with her daughter Bertha, moved back to their former New Haven home at 1219 Summit St., where she died and where Bertha still lives. Bertha states: "Father and mother were both very frugal, neither very extravagant but schooling us and clothing us according to their means, with a lot of denial to themselves and endurance of long hours of labor, which hurts me when I think of it. About 4 years after leaving Paulding County father sold the farm to Brady Brothers.

1. JOHN FRANKLIN, only child of first marriage to Florence Bouvier, born Nov. 9, 1875; Jan. 15, 1902, married Lola Edna McCoy, born Feb. 10, 1882. Lola died Jan. 24, 1935, at their country home, buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne. May 20, 1937, married Elfa Dyarman. John died Mar. 4, 1948, and is buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne. One child by first marriage: (Widow lives in McGill, Ohio)

Kennoth Dale, born Apr. 19, 1904, Payne, O. April 15, 1926, at Payne, Ohio, married Helen Lucille Keating, born July 27, 1904, at Antwerp, Ohio, who graduated from Antwerp High School. Address: Antwerp, O., R.F.D. Two children.

Florence Marie, born Jan. 28, 1930, Payne, O. Graduate of Antwerp High School. Feb. 11, 1950, married Robert Husted. Lives in Hicksville, O.

John Thomas, born Dec. 22, 1939, at Payne, O.

Children of second marriage to Florence Emma Shull:

1. Mary Rozetta, born Dec. 10, 1881; married Fred Thiebolt, which marriage was dissolved by divorce. One child.

George Clifford Thiebolt, born Jan. 12, 1901, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Attended Ft. Wayne public grade school. Mar. 1, 1929, married Doris Marie Grover, born Sept. 1, 1904, daughter of Dr. James and Boyrle (Glazier) of Harlan Grove; she graduated from Ft. Wayne Central High School, later attended Oberlin College, Ohio, and took Kindergarten work and taught in Ft. Wayne until her marriage took time out to raise a son and is now teaching part time in Lutheran and Public schools. She has had musical training in organ and voice. Also past matron of Trinity Chapter of Order of Eastern Star, Ft. Wayne. Clifford was a Boy Scout and later member of Ft. Wayne National Guards. He learned the knitting trade and for several years worked at Wayne Knitting Mills but due to numerous labor strikes he quit and had various jobs-such as grocery clerk, Ft. Wayne Builders' Supply Clerk, and in offices of General Electric Co. Then attended classes at the Indiana Extension Center and was promoted to assistant production foreman and now is supervisor of production. Both are members of English Lutheran Church, also a 32nd. degree mason. One child.

David Lee Thiebolt, born Nov. 21, 1930; graduated from Ft. Wayne North Side High School 1948; worked in office of General Electric Co. until entering armed service. He joined the National Guards in 1949, was activated into regular army in 1950. After a training period at Camp Alexander, La., he was sent to Japan for 1 ½ months, then to Korea, where he has served in combat with the U. S. Air Force - radar-ground observer unit known as 607 A.C. & W. Sqd. Has rating of Airman 1st. Class. Has been stationed north of Seoule for ten months. Was a Boy Scout, also a Demoley, a Masonic organization for young men. He is a member of Trinity English Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne. Enlistment in army expires Aug. 16, 1953.

"Zetta" married Harry Boseker, who died in February, 1938; 1942 was married to Albert A. Bauer, who died in 1952, and she lives at their home 1714 Lake Ave., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

2. Bertha Jeanette, born May 22, 1883; June 15, 1904, married Eugene Hall White, which marriage was dissolved by divorce, she resumed her maiden name and has never remarried. She lived with her mother during her declining years and gave her tender and loving care and now lives in the family home, 1219 Summit St., New Haven, Ind.

3. Samuel Oris, born May 1, 1885; died Jan. 25, 1900; buried in Odd Fellow Cemetery, New Haven, Ind.

4. Grace Leona, born Mar. 18, 1888; married Harry Phillips, which marriage dissolved by divorce; later married Harry Olwin; died Sept. 22, 1940; buried Odd Follow Cemetery, New Haven, Ind.

5. Iva Dot, born Mar. 19, 1891, in Paulding Co., O. Attended Central High School, New Haven, Ind.; graduated from International Business College, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Nov. 15, 1915, married McClolland Anglin Bittokoffer, b. Aug. 15, 1885, son of Henry Franklin and Ida May (Anglin) Bittikoffer, nicknamed "Bid" He attended Tri-State College, Angola, Ind. Operated dry cleaning business in Garrett, Many years, now retired. Members Garrett M. E. Church. Own and live at 205 S. Franklin St., Garrett, Ind.

6. Walter Cleo, b. Oct. 31, 1894, in Paulding Co., O.; graduated from Central High School, New Haven, Ind. and International Business College, Ft. Wayne, Ind. In the real estate business. July 14, 1917, at Adrian, Mich., married Ethel M. MacDonald, daughter of Rev. Julius MacDonald-born Winchester, Va.-and Sarah Agnes, born Ottawa, Ohio. Members of Christian Church. Own and live at 221 W. Maple Grove, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

7. Harry Murrell, born July 26, 1901, New Haven, Ind. Graduated New Haven High School. Apr. 22, 1926, married Lillian Baker, daughter of John and Amelia (Bevue) Baker. Owns and operates Wayne Floral Shop, 626 E. Wayne St., Ft. Wayne, Ind., since 1929. Home address, 626½ E. Wayne, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

FAMILY OF JOHN MATHIAS BIRKHOLD IV

JOHN MATHIAS BIRKHOLD IV, born in Germany Mar. 5, 1852, died April 4, 1931, at his home in Rosewood, O. Dec. 27, 1874, married Rebecca Catherine Jenkins, born March 31, 1849, daughter of Presley and Mary Catherine (Snyder) Jenkins, died Oct. 20, 1917; both buried in Rosedale Cemetery, near Rosewood, O. They met when Rebecca Catherine and her cousin, John Lewis Bodey, were visiting the Isaac Snyder family, good friends and neighbors of the Birkhold family, in Paulding County, O. After they were married they lived in Paulding County a short time; then moved to Shelby County, Ohio, to a farm directly across from the northwest corner of Champaign County and southwest corner of Logan County, where they lived until shortly after the birth of their daughter June, when they moved to a farm they had purchased in Johnson Township, Champaign County, where they lived until two years after their last child, Fairy, was born, moving to Rosewood, Ohio, in 1894, engaging in the retail grocery business. Seven children were born to them: Cora, June, Jason, Jasper, Mary, Oscar and Fairy.

1. RACHEL CORA BIRKHOLD, b. Jan. 26, 1876; after completing common school education attended Business College in Ft. Wayne, Ind., and worked as a stenographer in Chicago, later in Portland, Oregon. June 27, 1914, in Portland, Ore., married Ross Earle Hicks, teacher at the Hill Military Academy in Portland, born, Sept. 13, 1879, in Friendship, N. Y., son of William D. and Mary Ann (Smalley) Hicks. Graduated from University of Michigan in 1905 with a B.S. degree. Operated a general store in Huntsville, O., for 30 years, retiring in 1948 account of ill health.

2. JUNE F. BIRKHOLD, b. June 18, 1879; October 4, 1900in Auburn, Neb., married Cora Lee Armstrong, R.R. agent and telegrapher, born Nov. 9, 1878, son of Lafayette and Harriett (Slusser) Armstrong, died April 10, 1953, burial in Fairview Cemetery, Quincy, Ohio. Her present address: 1200 Grand Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

3. JASON PRESLEY BIRKHOLD, born July 15, 1881, died Dec. 23, 1905, burial in Rosedale Cemetery, near Rosewood, Ohio. R. R. agent and telegrapher. Nov. 26, 1903, married Cora A. Neal, daughter of John and Debbie (Woolley) Neal. One daughter, Ruth (Mrs. Frank Trumbo). Widow and daughter both living in Lexington, Ky.

4. JASPER W. BIRKHOLD, b. Oct. 2, 1883, died Jan. 27, 1951, after an illness of five years; burial in Rosedale Cemetery, near Rosewood, O. In early years he worked in a retail grocery store with his father. In 1905 he became a partner in a general store in Startup, Wash., but after several years he returned to Ohio and became a partner in the Birkhold store in Rosewood, Ohio. Later moved to Conover, Ohio, where he owned and operated a general store for 25 years, retiring in 1946 account of ill health. Oct. 17, 1906, in Rosewood, Ohio, married to Ethel Espy, born Dec. 29, 1884, daughter of Charles and Mary (Wilson) Espy. Members of E.U.B. Church. Present address of widow, Conover, Ohio. Two sons: Paul Espy and Stanley Clair.

PAUL ESPY BIRKHOLD, born Mar. 30, 1909, graduate of Lena-Conover High School in 1926; attended Wittenberg College two years. January, 1931, married Margaret L. Minnick, born July 25, 1909, daughter of Charles and Mary (King) Minnick. Paul employed as a production specialist by the U. S. Air Force and is assigned out of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, O. Address: Conover, Ohio. Two children,

Sally Joyce Birkhold, b. July 31, 1934
Sheldon Clair, b. Dec. 6, 1937

STANLEY CLAIR BIRKHOLD, born Oct. 12, 1913; graudated Lena-Conover High school in 1931. Attended Ohio State University three years, graduated from University of Michigan in 1937 with a B. S. degree in Forestry. Enlisted in U. S. Army Air Corps as a flying cadent in Oct., 1940. Graduated from flying school at Montgomery, Ala., in 1941. Spent 8 weeks in England on an Air Corps Mission 1942; Promoted from Captain to Major in 1943; served as instructor in the Army Air Force School of Applied Tactics in Orlando, Fla.; spent two years in China-Burma-India theatre of war as pilot and Squadron commander. After World War II he attended the U.S.A.F. Institute of Technology and was later attached to the Republic Aviation Corporation at Farmington, L. I.; since 1950 has been assigned to the Material Command Headquarters at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Received promotion to Lt. Colonel in 1952; due to ill health was released from the army Feb. 1, 1953, after twelve years in service. Nov. 21, 1942, in Washington D. C., married Alice Rogers, daughter of Thomas and Lily Rogers. One daughter. At present living in Orlando, Fla.

Alice Lee, b. Jan. 6, 1948

5. MARY CATHERINE BIRKHOLD, born Nov. 10, 1885. Oct. 12, 1905, married to Charles W. Cookston, R. R. agent and telegrapher, born Mar. 17, 1879, son of John and Elizabeth (Hoffman) Cookston. Members of E.U.B. Church. Address: Rosewood, Ohio.

6. OSCAR FOREST BIRKHOLD, born July 12, 1888, died Dec. 9, 1952, from effects of a heart condition and cerebal hemorrhage. Burial in Rosedale Cemetery, near Rosewood, O. S.P.R.R. agent and telegrapher for one year, then entered retail store business in Rosewood with his father in 1908, retired in 1946. Served as postmaster at Rosewood from 1915 to 1952. Traveled extensively in U. S. April 9, 1907, in St. Louis, Mo., married to Ora Poorman, born Nov. 27, 1887, daughter of Allen and Mary Alice (Ward) Poorman. Two children: Beulah and Robert Hugh. Address of widow, Rosewood, O.

BEULAH BIRKHOLD, born Mar. 29, 1910; graduated from Rosewood High School 1927; attended Wittenberg College two years; taught elementary grade school ten years. Oct. 20, 1932 married to Ralph Waldo Friend, born Aug. 21, 1906, son of John W. and Choral (Brabson) Friend; graduated from Rosewood High School 1925 and from Wittenberg College in 1930. Teaching profession seventeen years. Now operates general store and is postmaster at Rosewood, O.

ROBERT HUGH BIRKHOLD, Jan 20, 1917; graduated from Rosewood High School in 1934 and Ohio State University in 1938 with B. S. degree in Business Administration. Served eighteen months in U.S. army during 1945-1946, including study of Japanese language at University of Pennsylvania and some accounting work for the government discharged with rank of sargeant. Certified public accountant; worked for Time Incorporated from 1942 to 1949, except for period in the army. (TIME INCORPORATED publishes LIFE and FORTUNE magazines in addition to TIME.) Now a partner of Arthur Young & Co., accounting firm in New York City. Plans to spend three months, starting in September, 1953, attending Advanced Management Program at Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, Boston, Mass. Aug. 12, 1944, in New York City, married Dorothy Callahan, daughter of Lewis and Grace (Grover) Callahan, born Aug. 4, 1918; graduate from Westfield Hogh School, Westfield, New Jersey, in 1936 and Harcum Junior College, Bryn Mawr, Penna., in 1938. Address 27 Coleman Ave., West, Chatham, N. J. Two children:

Joanne, b. April 18, 1947

James Robert, b. Feb. 27, 1949

7. FAIRY BIRKHOLD, born Mar. 21, 1892; graduated Rosewood High School in 1910. Dec. 22, 1911, married to Raymond Curl, farmer, born June 20, 1891, son of Lewis Elmer and Carrie (Webb). Members of E.U.B. Church. Five children; Mary Elizabeth, Robert, Gail, Janet and Jackie. Address, Pemberton, Ohio, R.F.D.

MARY ELIZABETH CURL, born Oct. 14, 1916. Graduated Rosewood H.S. 1933; April 25, 1933, married to Eric Buroker, factory worker at Hobart's Troy, Ohio, born May 3, 1916, son of John and Anna (Grube) Buroker. Three children, John Raymond, born Aug. 3, 1934, died Mar. 6, 1949, from effects of brain tumor. Burial in Honey Creek Cemetery near Christiansburg, Ohio. Robert Miles, born Feb. 5, 1938; Rebecca Joyce, born Dec. 9, 1942. Address, Christiansburg, Ohio.

ROBERT CHARLES CURL, born Sept. 8, 1919. Graduated Rosewood High School 1937. Farmer. Oct. 18, 1941, married to Amelia Jane Roesser, born May, 1921, daughter of Jesse and Mamie (Bodey) Roesser. Address, DeGraffe, O., R.F.D.

GAIL BIRKHOLD CURL, born June 24, 1926. Graduated Rosewood H.S. 1944. Factory worker at Westinghouse, Bellefontaine, Ohio. July 21, 1944, married to Bertha G. Allison, born Dec. 3, 1926, daughter of Charles and Mabel Easton Allison. Two daughters: Mary Lee, born Sept. 28, 1945, and Debra Sue, born Nov. 26, 1950. Address- Quincy, O., R.R.

JANET CURL, Born Mar. 5, 1929. Graduated Lewistown H.S. 1947. Jan. 21, 1948, married to Don Cochlin, factory worker at Monarch, Sidney, O., born Oct. 5, 1928, son of Vernon and Eva (Harper) Cochlin. Three children: Carolyn, born Aug. 26, 1949; Timmie, born Nov. 19, 1951; and Marlyn, born Dec. 24, 1952. Address--Wapakonota, O., R.F.D.

JACKIE CURL, born Oct. 4, 1931, graduated Lewistown H.S. 1949. Factory worker at Westinghouse, Bellefontaine, O. 1949 married to Janet Elaine Hammond, born Oct. 26, 1931, daughter of John and Hazel (DeAll) Hammond. Two daughters: Janie, born Apr. 18, 1950, and Cindia Lee, born Oct. 26, 1952. Address-DeGraffe, R.R.

JONATHAN BIRKHOLD, b. Sept. 15, 1855,
d. 10-6-1900; buried
Dec. 25, 1877, m. Mahala Anspach of Paulding Co., daughter of Leander and Barbara Anspach; born in Perry Co.; with her parents moved to Paulding Co. in early girlhood. d. 8-1-1936, at home of her son Oliver in Three Rivers. Mich.
Jonathan and Mahala started housekeeping on a farm six miles southwest of Payne, O., where their first son, Clinton Jefferson, was born Oct. 20, 1878. Later this farm was sold to Jonathan's brother Christian and they purchased a farm two miles south of Payne, where they lived until Jonathan's death, after which Mahala made her home with their son Oliver. Farming was their vocation. Both were members of St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, O., of which they were charter members. Two sons: Clinton Jefferson and Oliver.

1. CLINTON JEFFERSON BIRKHOLD was born Oct. 20, 1878; Dec. 4, 1899 m. Sue Melissa Stewart, daughter of Clinton D. and Mary "Molly" (Coe) Stewart, of Payne, O. [illegible] b. 4-15-1877; in Champaign Co., O. Sue's parents moved to Paulding County as pioneers in 1879 and bought their first farm from the government, the deed having been written on sheepskin. They went to housekeeping and lived on a farm, which they owned, across the road and [illegible] of his father's farm, until Mar. 20, 1920, they moved to a farm they had purchased near Centerburg, Ohio, where they now live. Address, Centerburg, O., R.R.

2. OLIVER BIRKHOLD, b. Jan. 10, 1881 on farm where father died. d. Mar. 17, 1953, buried at Centerville Cemetery, Centerville, Mich. Oct. 21, married Emma Whitem at home of her parents Philip and [illegible] White, south of Payne, Ohio. They lived at his farm home for ten years, where six children were born to them: Philip, Thomas, Leroy, Idean, Helena and Ralph-moving to Three Rivers, Mich., in 1913, on a farm near there, where two children were born: John R. and Clifford. Ralph, John and Clifford served our country in the army overseas and all became captains. Member Lutheran Church.

Philip, married Esther Bohm. Five children:

Ted Oliver, m. Elizabeth Talbert. 2 daughters
Donald married Priscilla 3 children
Phyllis, m. Jack Brown, in army
Ramona, m. Francis Cameron. 1 child.
Virginia at home

Thomas m. Ruth Bohm. No children. d. 1946. buried in Three Rivers Cemetery. Member of Lutheran Church.

Leroy m. Kathleen Cain. 2 children.
Barbara Joan m. Karl Copsley. 1 child-Rodney
William Albert m. Doloris Crose. 3 children

Idean m. [illegible] 2 children

Ralph m. Lois Hawley. 3 children

John m. Gretchen Moore. 1 son

Clifford m. Kathryn Knapp. 1 son

Helena m. Gerald Burgess. 2 children

CHARLES DAVID BIRKHOLD, born Apr. 27, 1857, in Erie County, Ohio; Dec. 15, 1880, married Margaret Rachel Shrader, daughter of Michael and Bridget (McGiven) Schrader, at her home near Pemberton, Ohio, by Justice of the Peace Bowersox; she was born March 13, 1857, in Springfield, Ohio. David had become acquainted with this sweet little colleen while visiting his brother John Mathias in Shelby County. They established their home in a log cabin 1 1/2 miles southwest of Payne,Ohio; he worked in the pioneer days making railroad ties and staves for the stave factory-and clearing the land where the homestead was built in 1886 to 1890. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Faith; died April, 1937, aged 79 years; Margaret died April 15, 1933, aged 76 years; she was confirmed in the Lutheran church April 5, 1885, by Rev. J. E. Wesner. Their bodies were placed in the mausoleum in Lehman Cemetery, Payne, Ohio. Blessed with five children, three sons and two daughters, one son dying in infancy; Charles Emmett, Michael Thomas, Barbara Ann and Esther Gertrude.

REV. CHARLES EMMETT BIRKHOLD, b. Nov. 17, 1881, Payne, O; June 9, 1909, m. Onata Zoe Snellenberger b. Oct. 15, 1883, Payne, O. daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Miller) Snellenberger, Onata was a seamstress. He attended public school in Payne and Paulding, O., taught two terms in Payne High School, entered college at Capital University, Columbus, O., in 1901, for the greatest of all callings, the ministry; graduated from college in 1906 and entered the seminary, graduating in 1909. He accepted a call to Sugar Grove, West Virginia, serving five congregations. A son, Carolus Jonathan, and a daughter, Margaret, were born in the mountains of West Virginia, while they were located 35 miles from a railroad. When Carolus became of school age, he accepted a call as Lutheran Minister of two congregations at Jelloway, Ohio, where a daughter,Ruth, was born, and he passed on Nov. 7, 1920, aged 39 years. Buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne, Ohio. His widow remarried to Owen L. Jeffery, Paulding, Ohio, in 1935, where she now lives.

CAROLUS JONATHAN BIRKHOLD, b. August 15, 1911, between Sugar Grove, and Brandywine, W. Va. Graduated from Payne High School 1928, graduated in 1935 with Bachellor of Arts Degree from Capital University. Sept. 3, 1938 m. Enid Roberta Green, b. May 13, 1912 to Charles T. and Roberta Elvira (Staight) Green at Paulding, Ohio; in St. James Ev. Lutheran Church, Payne, Ohio, by the Rev. A. A. Knupke, the same church his parents were married. From 1944 to the present he has taught in Grover Hill High School (Ohio). Members of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Paulding, Ohio. Two children, both born at Paulding, Ohio.

Louise Sarah, b. Nov. 6, 1939
Jon Staight, b. Aug. 5, 1945

SARAH MARGARET VIRGINIA BIRKHOLD, b. Mar. 24, 1914, Brandywine, W. Va.; graduated Payne High School 1932; attended Wittenberg College, Springfield, O., '32 and '33; graduated from Springfield City Hospital 1936, passed State Board and received R.N. degree December, 1936; Aug. 14, 1936, m. Richard Milton May, M. D., in St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, O., who was born Sept. 29, 1900, at Laconia, Ind., oldest son of Sidney Boone and Anna A. (Sides) May. They now have in their possession 90 acres in Harrison County, Ind., taken out in 1807 by Samuel Boone, a nephew of the famous Daniel Boone. Milton graduated from Laconia, Ind., High School; has A. B. Degree from Indiana State Normal School; received M. D. Degree from Indiana University in 1935. Is Asst. Chief Surgeon of U. S. Steel in Gary, the largest single steel mill in the world. He educated his brother Merrill who, after being a star base ball player for Indiana U. went on to be 3rd. baseman for the Phili Phills from '39 to '43; in 1940 was 3rd. baseman for the National League in the All Star Game. Members Trinity Lutheran Church, Gary, Ind. Address 667 Van Buren St., Gary, Ind. Four children.

Charles Milton May, b. Jan. 3, 1938
Glend Edward May, b. May 30, 1940
Marshall Larry May, b. Aug. 18, 1942
Margaret Zoeanna May, b. Oct. 4, 1946

RUTH ONATA, b. Feb. 9, 1918, Jelloway, Ohio; graduated Paulding High School 1936; Jan. 6, 1937, at Hillsdale, Mich., in Lutheran Parsonage, married Francis Woodring Ross, b. , son of William Henry and Edith Mae (woodring) Ross, of Cecil, O. July 28, 1945, Ruth and Francis were granted a divorce at the Paulding County Courthouse; were re-married Jan. 14, 1946, in Covington, Ky. Francis employed as a salesman in Montgomery Ward Store, Columbia City; Ruth employed as a personnel clerk at the Magnavox Company, in Ft. Wayne, and writes: "I want you to know that I was fortunate enough to be the Personnel clerk in a department in which Aunt Lucinda Lee worked the last months which she spent at the Magnavox. She was an inspiration to me and we had many enjoyable moments together, as we often ate dinner together. She worked here after World War II so she could tell her grandchildren that she worked on Television." Both Ruth and Francis are members of Grace Lutheran Church, Columbia City. Address-305 E. Chicago St., Columbia City, Ind. Three children:

Mary Joan, b. at Cecil, O., Dec. 29, 1938. Will be sophomore Columbia City High School Sept. 1953 Confirmed Grace Lutheran Church June, 1952.
Betsy Ross, b. Paulding, O., Oct. 20, 1940. Will be 7th. grade West Ward School, Columbia City, Sept. 1953. Member Grace Lutheran Sunday School.
John Francis, b. Sept. 2, 1950, Luckey Hosp., Wolf Lake, Ind. Member Grace Lutheran Sunday School.

2. BARBARA ANN BIRKHOLD, b. July 11, 1886, Payne, O.; Sept. 4, 1904, married Dennis Ankney, son of David and Elizabeth (Kohli) Ankney, of Paulding, O. He was a barber by trade and during early years of their married life lived in Paulding, Ohio. Later moving to the Birkhold homestead (where she now lives) engaging in farming. He died Jan. 18, 1941, buried in Lehman Cemetery; of Lutheran Faith. Five children: Vera, Esther, Leona, Maxine and Harry.

VERA MAE ANKNEY, b. Dec. 6, 1905, in Paulding, Paulding Co., O. Graduated Payne High School 1925; confirmed St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, Nov. 14, 1925, married Homer Ellsworth Foreman, b. May 9, 1906, Blue Creek Twp., Paulding Co., O., son of Harry E. and Jessie (Tope) Foreman; address, 661 N. Market St., Van Wert, O. Five children: 4 sons, 1 daughter.

EUGENE, b. June 30, 1926, in Ft. Wayne, Ind.; graduated Van Wert High School; served in U. S. Navy 1944 to 1946; Sept. 7, 1946, married Norma Jean Wesco of Van Buren, Ind., at Van Buren, Ind. Members St. Marks Lutheran Church. Two children:

Terry Lynn, b. June 28, 1947
Chris Lee, b. Feb. 27, 1953

HOMER ROBERT, b. in Ft. Wayne, Ind., Dec. 22, 1928; served in U. S. Navy 1945 to 1946; Feb. 7, 1948, married Pearl Sigler, of Van Wert, O. in Van Wert, O. Members of St. Marks Lutheran Church. Three children:

Cathy Elaine, b. Dec. 28, 1949
Susan Kay, b. Apr. 7, 1950
Deborah Jene, b. Jan. 2, 1953

VIRGINIA JOAN, b. Dec. 3, 1929, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Aug. 19, 1947, married David William Pollock, of Middle Point, O., in Van Wert, O. Members St. Marks Lutheran church. Three children:

Lynn Diane, b. June 3, 1948
Steven David, b. Nov. 17, 1950
Jill Ann, b. May 2, 1952

BYRON LEE, b. Nov. 15, 1931, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Graduated Van Wert High School. Entered U. S. Air Service Feb. 13, 1950. was discharged Feb. 13, 1954. Member Catholic Church. Home at Van Wert, O.

SHIRLEY ANN, b. Dec. 15, 1934, Ft. Wayne, Ind., graduated Van Wert High School 1952. Member St. Marks Lutheran Church. At home.

ESTHER ANKNEY, b. Mar. 28, 1908. m. John E. Lehman. Address-555Woodside Drive, Akron, O. Three sons.

AL NIEL LEHMAN, b. m. Donna Owens, Columbus,O. 1 son.

JOHN LEHMAN, b.

BILLIE LEHMAN, b. 2nd. Lieut. U. S. Air Corps, in Columbus, Ohio.

LEONA ANKNEY, b. Aug. 6, 1909; m. Noble Copenhaver, son of Lloyd and Hattie (Snyder) Copenhaver. Carpenter. Live in Payne, O. 1 son.
KEITH, b.

MAXINE ANKNEY, b. June 17, 1917, at home.

HARRY ANKNEY, b. Apr. 20, 1924, Killed in an auto accident in Ft. Wayne, Ind., Nov. 30, 1942. Buried in Lehman Cemetery.

3..MICHAEL THOMAS BIRKHOLD, b. Jan. 3, 1884; Apr. 3, 1904, married Pearl Harriett Fields, daughter of W. P. and Cary Fields, of Antwerp, O. Members of Lutheran Church, Payne. He farmed near Payne, O., until after her death Jan. 8, 1927, when ne moved to Payne and lived until his death, July 1, 1948. Both buried in Lehman cemetery, Payne, O. Two sons Paul and Gale.

PAUL BIRKHOLD, B. Sept. 21, 1903 Payne, O., 1927 married to Fredna Lyon of Toledo, O. Graduated from Payne High School, then went to Detroit, Mich., and found work. Address-2404 Franklin, Toledo 10, O. One son.

DAVID MICHEAL, b.

GALE BIRKHOLD, b. Dec. 25, Payne, O. Graduated from Payne High School, then attended International Business College, Ft. Wayne, I.. Served in World War II, as assistant in hospital in New Guinea. Married Grace Becker of Toledo, Ohio, and live in Toledo.

4. ESTHER GERTRUDE BIRKHOLD, b. Mar. 7, 1892; Jan. 1, 1911, m. Otto Carson Lentz, b. Dec. 4, 1889, at Continental, O., son of John Wesley and Racial (Barnett) Lentz. Farmer. Members St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, O. Address-Payne, O. 5 children.

ZOLA LEOTA, b. May 27, 1914; graduated Payne High School 1932. Jan. 19, 1936, married George Earl Doering, b. Jan. 19, 1914, son of Gary Earl and Stella (Johnson) Doering, in Lutheran Parsonage, Payne, O.-license Paulding Co. George graduated Payne High School 1932. Lutheran Faith. Address 320 E. Cross St., Ypsilanti, Mic. 2 sons.

GENE GREGORY, b. June 12, 1938
THOMAS ERWIN, b. Oct. 1, 1945

ORDEAN CHARLES, b. Aug. 18, 1917; Oct. 1, 1938, m. Marjorie Bailey, daughter of George and Alva (Loop) Bailey, of Latty, O., married in Covington, Ky., and license obtained there, at the Lutheran Parsonage in Covington. Marjorie, b. Aug. 24, 1918, in Paulding, O., graduated from Latty High School 1936, then attended International Business College in Ft. Wayne, was employed in office of Insurance Company in Paulding, O. Ordean graduated Payne High School 1935, then started a trucking business which he is still carrying on, dealing in lime, fertilizer, hay, straw, stone, etc. Lutheran Faith. Address-W. Merrin St., Payne, O. 1 son, 1 daughter.

NIEL DEAN, b. Jan. 6, 1943
PATRICIA ANN, b. Sept. 20, 1945

PAUL WESLEY, b. Mar. 16, 1922; Aug. 3, 1941, m. Doris Cryer, born Oct. 20, 1920, daughter of Earl and Olive (Elliott) Cryer, of Payne, graduated from Payne High School 1938, then from the Wayne Beauty College in Ft. Wayne and worked as a beauty operatod in Payne. Paul graduated from Payne High School 1940; is a farmer and they live on their farm west of Payne; Lutheran Faith. 4 children

LARRY LINN, b. 1942; d. Sept. 29, 1950. b. Lehman Cemetery
PAULA DEE, b. Dec. 14, 1945
KENNETH RAY, b. May 9, 1947
SYLVIA DIAN, b. Sept. 26, 1949

EDNA AILENE, b. Jan. 25, 1927; 1947 m. 2nd. Lieut. Henry Kenneth Donnell, b. June 6, 1927, son of Col. Henry J. and Devota (Johnson) Donnell, of Antwerp, O., in St. James Lutheran Church by Rev. A. A. Knupke; Edna graduated Payne High School 1945, worked 2 years at Wolf & Dessauer, Ft. Wayne; Henry graduated Antwerp High School 1945, National Guardsman at Paulding, O; attended Bowling Green College 2 yrs., moved to Tiffin, O., worked for the government in the armory at Tiffin until the Ohio National Guards 37th. Division was called to Camp Polk, La., in 1952; 1 year there, then 6 months at Ft. Benning, Ga., graduated there June 3, 1953, in O.T.C. Now (Aug, 1953) back to Camp Polk, Leesville, La. Lutheran Faith. 2 daughters.

DENICE MARIE, b. Mar. 10, 1948
DEBRA KAY, b. May 20, 1951

ROBERT DAVID, b. Oct. 23, 1928; June 23, m. Donna Jean McCurdy, daughter of Ronald and Thelma (Wren) McCurdy, Payne, in St. Mark Lutheran Church, Van Wert, O., by Rev. E. D. Driscoll, license Paulding Co. Donna born Sept. 11, 1935, graduated from Payne High School. Robert graduated from Payne High School spent 2 years in U. S. Army, 18 mo. at Camp Rucker, Ala.; took part in the Long Horn problem in Texas; 6 mo. spent overseas; left from Seattle, Wash., June 1952, discharged January, 1953, and went back to his former job at Salsbury Axle Co. Ft. Wayne. Lutheran Faith. Address-Payne, O.

VICKEY JEAN, b. Apr. 28, 1954

By Mrs. George Birkhold (Aunt Hat)

GEORGE J. BIRKHOLD, born Oct. 17, 1859; 1887 married Hattie M. Baker, born Aug. 9, 1866, daughter of Simon S. and Susan (Clem) Baker, Justice of Peace T. Boldon, of Boldon, Ind., officiating, as no Lutheran minister was nearer than Paulding and roads were impassable. George was a farmer and tile manufacturer. Owned a farm adjoining that of his father, which is still owned by the widow and operated by their son Oscar. After retiring from farming they moved to Payne, Ohio, in which home "Aunt Hat" now lives. Address: Box 292 Payne, Ohio. Members of Payne Lutheran Church. George died Oct. 19, 1946, aged 88 yr. 3 da., and is buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne, O.

25,

1. ETHEL, born Sept./1887; passed Boxwell examination, attended Payne High School for 2 years, 1 year student at Ohio University, Oxford, O., and one year later at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind. Was then a teacher in Payne Elementary School until marriage to Joseph E. Atwill, of Paulding, O., in 1909. To this union one child was born.

Portia Ruth, born 1910, suffered from infantile paralysis from the age of 1 ½ years until her death in 1932.

This marriage resulted in a divorce in 1930. In 1941 Ethel married Geo. L. Phillips of Miami, Fla., who passed away in 1945. In 1947 a marriage was entered into with Franklin H. Baker, born April 2, 1896, son of J. Franklin and Florence N. (Seiburt) Baker, who graduated in Pottstown, Penn. preparatory high school, then Central High School, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1914; University of Pennsylvania in 1918, degrees Bachelor of Arts, A. B., and Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering; is an architect and engineer; Military record as follows: R.O.T.C. 1916-17, U. of Pa.; A.U.S. 1917-22 2nd.Lt.; O.R. thru 1940, 1st. Lt. and Capt.; U.S.A.A.F., 1940-46, Major. Foreign service-Panama, Haiti, North Africa, Saudia Arabia and Iran. Member of the Masonic and Shriner lodges. Member of Lutheran Church. They own and live at 3311 LaJeune Rd., Coral Gables, Fla. Phone 4-3479 unlisted.

2. ALBERT, born April 16, 1889; died May 1, 1889, buried Lehman Cemetery.

3. DOROTHY, born June 26, 1890; passed Boxwell examination and taught school several terms but did not like teaching and took up bookkeeping. Married Edward Leckliter, who had been shell shocked during World War I and finally had to be taken to Veterans' Home near Dayton, Ohio. Dorothy is head bookkeeper for Paper Book Co., in Columbus, O.

4. MARION RUBIN, born July 20, 1892; graduated in Payne High School, taught two terms of school in the country then entered government service as teacher and was sent to Hawaii. Sept. 13, 1913, while swimming was drowned; body was returned and is buried in Lehman Cemetery.

5. GLENN ELLSWORTH, born March 9, 1896, Payne, O., had only a country school education. Served our country one year lacking one day in W. War II as ambulance driver in France. Followed farming for some time, then moved to Detroit, Mich., and now works at the Chrysler Automobile plant. Dec. 31, 1919, married Leota Paterson, born Aug. 8, 1896, in Fisher, Ill. Address: 859 Algonquin Ave., Detroit, Mich. Five children: Patricia Ann, James Alan, Marvin William, Robert Hugh, and Maurice Paterson.

Patricia Ann, b. Oct. 17, 1920. R. N. University of Michigan Hospital 1941; May 12, 1941, married Anders Phelps, b. Apr. 30, 1918; B. S. Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan, 1948; attended Armour Institute of Technicology 1937-1938; served in U. S. Navy May 13, 1941, to Sept, 29, 1945, as chief torpedoman. Reside in Ann Arbor, Mich. Two children:

Richard Charles, born Jan. 27, 1944
Frederick George, born May 3, 1952

James Alan, born July 27, 1922; B. S. Mechanical Engineering University of Michigan 1949; served in U. S. Navy Nov. 1942 to Jan. 1946, as chief motor mechanic. Sept. 4, 1948, married Margineal Howerton, secretary, born June 14, 1929. Reside in Benton Harbor, Mich. One child.
Robert Alan, born March 1, 1953.

Marion William, born Feb. 27, 1925; served in U. S. Army Air Corps Feb. 1943 to Oct. 1946, as Flight Officer. Now Capitol Air Lines pilot. Resides in Willow Run.

Robert Hugh, born Mar. 24, 1929; tool and die worker. May 7, 1949, married Donna Bondie, secretary, born Jan. 5, 1929. Live in Detroit, Mich. Three chidlren:
Katherine Ann, born Dec. 29, 1949
Karen Marie, born April 25, 1951
Bobbie Ruth, born May 31, 1952

Maurice Paterson, born Sept. 7, 1930. Sargeant U. S. Army A.S.A. serving six years, 3½ years in Japan. Now in California.

6. OSCAR CLEOW, born Feb. 25, 1898, after finishing country school worked for a while in Ft. Wayne, then married and lived on the home farm 3 miles north of Payne on Route 500. They still love there. Have 3 sons, youngest married July 21, 1953.

7. CARL MORGAN, born Nov. 30, 1902. Quit Payne high school one year before graduating. Married and soon after his wife died. Later he married again-wife's name Eileen Bush-they have two sons, live in Columbus, Ohio, and he works for Proctor Electric Co. as traveling sales manager.

8. THELMA BEATRICE, born May 28, 1907, graduated from Payne High School in 1924. the following year entered Bliss College, Columbus, O., after completing this business course she obtained a position with the Brightman Mfg. Co., of Columbus, and finally was elected to the office of Secretary and Treasurer of the same company, severing her connection after twenty years of service in 1945 on account of ill health. in 1933 she married James McCann, with whom she lived until her death Dec. 16, 1950. no children.

CHRISTENA ELIZABETH, B. Feb. 27, 1861, near Bellevlew, Erie County, O. Mar. 19,1880, married Marion Whitmer Stephenson, son of Thomas Sims and Hettie (Whitmer) Stephenson, of Champaign County, O., who was born Dec. 29, 1858, in Fountain County, Ind. License for their marriage was issued in Paulding County, O., and the marriage vows were repeated in the parlor of her father's new home on a farm about five miles from Payne, Ohio, Geo. W. Bowers, J.P., officiating. The following day they went to Champaign County and started housekeeping in a little log cabin, about 1 ½ miles east of the intersection of the Shelby-Logan-Champaign counties, where they lived for more than a year, then moved into a frame house in the northwest corner of Champaign County on a farm owned by his father, later purchased by him and became part of his homestead. The first few years he taught school during the school term and farmed during the summer, later added road construction contracting to farming. Marion passed on Oct. 1, 1908, in his home; Christena passed on Apr. 23, 1944, in the same room, the farm still being owned by her but occupied by their son Emmett James, who later purchased the farm from the other heirs. Both are buried in Cedar Point Cemetery, near Pasco, O. (east of Sidney on route 706) Christena (Lutheran) Children:

1. MARY HETTIE, born Feb. 5, 1881, in the parlor of her grandfather Stephenson's home, as her grandparents thought the log cabin would not be warm enough for a new mother and babe. Attended school in Adams Tp. Champaign Co., and passed the Boxwell examination at the age of 12. Attended high school Woodstock, Ohio one year but could not go on account of ill health. Taught school in Maplewood, Ohio then took a business course and finally qualified as exprt legal stenographer; experience included secretary to Hon. J. H. Goeke, Representative of the Fourth District, Washington D. C. and three years in office of Attorney General of Ohio. July 12, 1916, married to Warner Chalfant Miller, son of Edward Merton and Jennie Elizabeth (Warner) Miller, of Toledo, O., at Detroit, Mich., license obtained there. This marriage dissolved by divorce 1919 spring term of court Okmulgee County, Okla. April 14, 1926 married Will Graham Smith son of Joseph Edward And Mary Elwilda (Graham) Smith, in Dayton, O., license obtained there. Will was born Aug. 15, 1884, in Hicksville, Ohio, is a train dispatcher for Baltimore and Ohio R. R., began service Nov. 11, 1899, shortly after his 15th. birthday. Live in their own home at 605 S. Franklin St., Garrett, Ind. Both members of Mother Church, 1st. Church Christ Scientist, Boston, Mass.

2. THOMAS GEORGE, born June 9, 1882, first child born in the frame house on grandfather's farm; Nov. 29, 1903, married Zulu Milner, daughter of Theudus Alonzo and Fannie Margaret (Maxson) Milner, b. Apr. 19, 1886; school teacher, farmer, grain elevator operator and part owner at Maplewood, O. Died Feb. 11, 1935, buried at Glen Cemetery, Port Jefferson, Ohio. One child, Mary Margaret.

MARY MARGARET, b. Sept. 19, 1906, near Quincy, O., Oct. 21, 1925, married Russell G. Hodge, son of Phillip and Ida (Griffith) Hodge, at Christiansburg, O., license issued in Shelby County. Russell born Jan. 6, 1904; graduate Sidney high school 1922; farmer. Own and live on a farm near Maplewood, O. One child, Richard Madison.

RICHARD MADISON, B. June 21, 1932. Grad. Sidney High School 1950; two years in Oxford University, now a student in Radio Engineering at Tri-State College, Angola, Ind.

3. EMMETT JAMES, b. June 28, 1884; in 1902 married Leecie May Dovel, daughter of Joseph and Mary Ellen (Sargent) Dovel, Quincy, O., who was born July 9, 1887. License issued Logan County. Owns and lives on the home farm, R.R. Pemberton, O. Three sons.

MARION KENNETH, b. Mar. 12, 1903; Apr. 18, 1945, married Helen Leiningor, b. Apr. 1, 1911, daughter of Lewis and Sophia Cathorino (Scherer) Leiningor, grad. Washington Twp. High School Lewistown, Ohio, in 1928; received 4-year Provisional certificate in 1930, B. S. Degree August, 1940, Bowling Green State University; in 1934 received Elementary Life Certificate for teaching. Marion served in World War II, army serial No. 35505835 Private - Detachment Corps of Engineers SCU No. 1758. Inducted Aug. 3, 1942 at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana; Army Specialty Cook. Discharged Feb. 25, 1943, at Camp Hale, Col; now an automobile salesman. Helen teaches in Bellefontaine schools. Own and reside at 728 S. Detroit, Bellefontaine. One child.

Joanne Elaine, born Oct. 14, 1946.

RUSSELL, born Oct. 24, 1904; died Feb. 26, 1907; buried at Cedar Point Cemetery, near Pasco.

WHEELER, born Feb. 6, 1908; at home. Employe of State Highway Department.

4. ROBERT FRANKLIN, born Jan. 9, 1889; 1917 married Ina, daughter of G. K. and Josephine (Van de Mark) Monroe; license issued Shelby Co. Both graduates of Pemberton High School. Ina taught school before her marriage. Robert has been a coal dealer, stock buyer, lumber yard and builder in Mt. Victory, O. Now retired from business, farm owner and stock raisor. Address: Mt. Victory, O. One son.

VAN DE MARK STEPHENSON, b. Jan. 28, 1918, married Ardith, daughter of Ross and Cassie (Shirtzer) Sherman. Three children.

NORMA JEAN, born Mar. 14, 1931; 1948 m. Calvin Keith Holser, son of John and Roxanna Holser, b. Mar. 10, 1926, served 3 years in U.S. Navy. Two sons

Michael Stephen, born Jan. 17, 1949

John Marc, born Feb. 22, 1950,

BONDRA ELLEN, born April 15, 1934

CHARLOTTE SUE, born June 18, 1939.

5. JOHN MADISON (Mack), born Sept. 23, 1890; Feb. 5, 1928, married Goldie, daughter of Edward amd Mary (Leech) Minnear, Quincy, O. born Dec. 14, 1892. "Mack" graduated from Pemberton High School, also International Business College, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Part owner of garage in New Haven, Ind., Maytag Stores in Fremont and Port Clinton, Ohio, with his brother Clifford. Died Feb. 27, 1936; buried Glen Cemetery, Port Jefferson, O.

6. HARRY BIRKHOLD, b. June 3, 1892; 1912 married to Ida, daughter of Leonidas E. and Flora B. (Mintle) Fidler; Ida born Feb. 28, 1893; Graduated Pemberton High School. Now job-setter in Frigidaire Div. of General Motors, Dayton, Ohio. Own and live at Argyle St., Dayton 10, O. Ida member St. Paul M. E. Church, Dayton. Six children.

KARL DENNIS, born Jan. 20, 1913; Nov. 14, 1931, married Opal daughter of Ford and Anna (Andrews) Kesslor, born Dec. 15, 1914. One child.

Richard Lee, born Dec. 14, 1933. Dec. 6, 1952, married Kathleen, daughter of David and Elsie (Murphy) Devine, born Dec. 12, 1934. Enlisted in U. S. Navy Sept. 3, 1952; now studying electronics in Jacksonville, Fla. has 3 stripes and the Eagle at present, July 30, 1953.

Karl was divorced from Opal and married (2nd) Bessie Mae, daughter of John and Ora Jane (Perryman) Saul, born Dec. 25, 1917. Karl served in U.S. army from July 10, 1943, to Oct. 15, 1945. No. 35224093, P.F.C. Detachment M.G.F.R.C. in 5 campaigns, Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe and Ardennes. 8 Mo. 3 da. Continental service, 1 yr. 6 mo. 19 da. foreign service. Owns and lives at 437 Krebs Ave. Dayton, O. Three sons by last marriage.

John D., born Aug. 13, 1943
Dennis Karl, born July 8, 1946
David Michael, born Oct. 4, 1953

FRANCES IRENE, born June 11, 1915; Dec. 31, 1933, married Edward Thomas Kemmerer (Tom), born May 17, 1913, son of Edward and Daisy Kemmerer. Tom is superintendent in Frigidaire division of General Mortors, Dayton, O. Own and reside at 529 Heiss Ave., Dayton 3. Two children. Members Linden Avenue Baptist-Dayton.

Thomas Edgar, born Apr. 19, 1936
Jeanie Gale, born June 4, 1940

VERA RUTH, born Nov. 14, 1918; Jan. 4, 1936, married to Alvin A. Gustin, born Jan. 23, 1913, son of Edward and Emma Gustin. He is employed as a compositor at McCall Pub. Co., Dayton. Own and reside at 207 N. Glenmeade Ave., Dayton 3 (Knollwood). Two children. Members E.U.B. at Knollwood.

Sandra Lee, born Aug. 27, 1937
David Alvin, born May 16, 1941

18,

KATHRYN LOUISE, born Mar./1920; 1936 married to Arthur W. Oswald, born Feb. 17, 1911, son of Michael and Kathryn (Raab) Oswald. Arthur foreman in screw division National Cash Register. Own and reside at 318 Shadowlawn, Dayton 9. Two children. Lutheran faith.

Joan Kathryn, born May 26, 1937
Donald Arthur, born Jan. 26, 1948

PHYLLIS JEAN, born Oct. 28, 1928; 1947 married to Robert C. Haller, born Aug. 3, 1921, son of Frank and Pearl (Knox) Haller; served in U. S. army Oct. 8, 1942 to Nov. 2, 1945. Owns automobile repair shop. Own and reside at 3816 Addison St., Dayton 5. Three children. Phyllis member St. Paul M.E., Dayton, O.

Carol Lee, born Dec. 19, 1947
Robert Stephen, born Sept. 17, 1949
Gary Alan, born Dec. 29, 1952

ROBERT HARRY, born Feb. 16, 1938; died Mar. 27, 1938; buried Memorial Park Cemetery, Dayton, O.

7. CHARLES MARION VIRGIL (Virgil) born Apr. 4, 1894; Nov. 29, 1919, married Christine Sophia Meyer, born Nov. 27, 1893, daughter of Charles and Sophia (Rinehard) Meyer; graduated Pemberton High School. Farmer. Died Aug. 13, 1936, result of automobile accident. Buried Graceland Cemetery Sidney, Ohio. Widow owns and lives on a farm in Logan Co., about one mile east of Shelby County line and one mile south of Champaign County line; Address: Pemberton, O., R.F.D. Christine of Lutheran faith. Three children.

RUTH ANN, born July 14, 1921; graduated from Quincy, O., High School 1939; Mar. 31, 1940, married William Howard Rose, born June 15, 1918, son of Kenneth and Frances (Chambers) Rose; graduated from Quincy High School 1935. Farmer. Owns and resides on their farm, adjoining that of her mother. Address: Pemberton, O. R.F.D. Two children.

Terena, born June 6, 1945
Sandra Ann, born Oct. 16, 1953

BETTY JANE, born Jan. 4, 1925; graduated Quincy High School 1942; Employed in DeGraffo bank; Aug. 27, 1949, in St. Paul E. & R Church, Sidney, O., by Rev. R. Wobus, married to Joe Earl Brennor, of DeGraffo, born Oct. 23, 1921, son of Homer and Zophia (Buckenroth) Brennor. License Shelby County. Joe graduated DeGraffo High School 1940; Served 3½ years in World War II as sargeant in Air Force. Address: DeGraffo, O. Joe employed at Stolle Co., Sidney, O. One daughter.

Julia Elaine, b. Apr. 30, 1954

WILLIAM VIRGIL, B. Aug. 13, 1927; graduated Quincy High School 1939; Enlisted U. S. Navy July 1945; shortly thereafter collapsed on duty, pronounced tubercular; now on pension; studying Accounting at Tri-State College, Angola, Ind.

8. CLIFFORD HENRY, born Feb. 16, 1896; graduated Rosewood High School 1914; April 21, 1915, married Icy Mae Clem, born Feb. 16, 1895, daughter of William Ellsworth and Emma Elnora (Bodey) Clem, graduated Rosewood High School 1913. License Champaign County. Clifford began as a farmer, then, in partnership with his brother "Mack", owned Maytag and Electrical Appliance stores in Fremont and Port Clinton, O. Now retired from business. Owns and lives at 719 S. Madison, Port Clinton, O. Icy Christian Science student. One son.

MAX CLEM, born June 1, 1926; graduated Port Clinton High School 1944; Oct. 9, 1948, married Helen Kathryn Polley, born Feb. 18, 1927, daughter of George Stephens and Dorothy Irene (Kopp) Polley, of Ottawa County, O. Helen graduated from York High School, Sandusky Co., 1945. Max served in U. S. Navy from Sept. 25, 1944, to June 29, 1946, as radioman 3rd. class - Service No. 950-00-10. Owns radio and television repair shop. Own and live at 332 Wilson Ave., Port Clinton, O. Helen member E. R. Lutheran Church, Bellview, Ohio. One daughter.

Janet Ann, born Mar. 29, 1952

Family of Mary Magdalene Birkhold

MARY MAGDALENE (Lena) BIRKHOLD, born July 10, 1862, Payne, Ohio. April 1, 1884, married Emmett James Cress, son of William Teller and Mary Ann (Lehman) Cress, born Dec. 11, 1857, at New Haven, Ind. In business at Payne, Ohio, until 1908 moved to Van Wert, O., and engaged in grocery and meat business; later moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where both passed on, Emmett on Jan. 18, 1924; Lena Sept. 11, 1929; both are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Van Wert, Ohio; 1896 both united with Methodist Church, Paybo, O. Parents of three sons; Orlando Ellsworth, Henry Lloyd and Forrest Vesper.

1. ORLANDO ELLSWORTH CRESS, born July 10, 1888; Dec. 22, 1906, married Laura Ellan Gensel, Payne, O. Divorced. m. Helen Blyth, Cincinnati, deceased Dec. 1924, married Loona Bullock, divorced 1953. Graduated in Payne high school and Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati; where he practiced medicine and surgery for several years; at present in practice of medicine and surgery in Van Wert, Ohio.

2. HENRY LLOYD CRESS, born May 20, 1891, Payne, Ohio. Married Wilda Zoe Elder, daughter of Charles David and Jessie L. Elder, born June 17, 1890, at Van Wert, Ohio, Union Township. Moved with parents to Van Wert and graduated in Van Wert High School. Lloyd graduated from Payne High School 1907; graduated from Ohio College of Dental Surgery, Cincinnati, O., May 27, 1915; taught country school one year. Practiced Dentistry 38 years, at present in Van Wert, Ohio, 616 N. Market St. One child, David James Cress.

DAVID JAMES CRESS, born Aug. 7, 1917. Dec. 27, 1941, at Marion, O., married Mary Elizabeth Swain, daughter of Rev. Joseph Bruce and Mabel Marie (Dull) Swain, who was born April 10, 1918, graduated from Harding High School, Marion, O., 1935; attended Ohio Northern University, Ada, O., three years, studying Public School Music; taught Public School Music Ohio City-Liberty High School, 1946. David graduated Van Wert, O., high school 1935; graduated Ohio Northern University 1940, Bachelor of Science in Education; Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, O., Master of Arts, 1952; teacher Ohio City Liberty High School 1940-1942, 1946-1950; since 1950 principal in Ohio City Liberty High School. Served as Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Forces -35039769- three years, seven months 29 days service. Taught in Air Force schools and work in Air Intelligence Branch of Information and Education Services, Classed as Information Specialist when discharged. Address, Bellvue, Ohio.

Issue: Constance Marie Cress, born Nov. 4, 1946.

3. FORREST VESPER CRESS, born April 4, 1896, Payne, Ohio. Oct. 30, 1919, married Marie Christine Tauborn at Toledo, Ohio. Graduate of Van Wert High School and Eclectic Medical College; practicing medicine and surgery in College Hill, Cincinnati, O. Children: Forrest, Jr. and Mary Jean, both married. Forrest, Jr., Cress, practicing dentistry in Cincinnati, O. Each has two children and both live in Cincinnati. Office address of Forrest Vesper, Sr., 1629 N. Bend Rd., Cincinnati 24, Ohio

HENRY BIRKHOLD, born Apr. 27, 1864; was a school teacher for many years and later a merchant in Payne, Ohio. Married Jennie Lehman. b. 1872; d. 1939. Henry; died Mar. 30, 1947 - both are buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne, Ohio. Four children: Earl, Floyd, Lela May and Carlyle.

1. Lela May Birkhold, born June 11, 1899; graduated Payne High School 1916; Teacher's Degree at Tri-State College, Angola, Ind., 1918; Taught school prior to marriage; member of St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, O.; Jan. 4, 1919, married Czerney Leon Everson, in Centerville, Mich.; born June 15, 1897, son of Sankey and Marilla Fanny (Heidebrecht) Everson; graduated Payne High School 1915; salesman. Czerney died July 12, 1946, Lela died Oct. 24, 1949, both in Ft. Wayne. Both are buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne, O. Nine children: Gwendolyn Jane, John Henry, Maurice J., Keith Czerney, Kenneth Neil, Robert Leland, Chester Max, Ted Larry and Kimsey Conklin:

Gwendolyn Jane, born Feb. 10, 1920; graduated South Side High School, Ft. Wayne, 1938; done clerical work at Lincoln Life prior to marriage. May, 1939, confirmed in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne June 24, 1939, at Logansport, Ind., married Arthur Fred Pieper, born Sept. 22, 1917, son of Henry and Martha (Schroeder) Pieper; graduated Concordia High School, Ft. Wayne, Ind., 1935; 1930 confirmed in St. Paul's Luteran Church; now members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Avilla, Ind. Served in U. S. Army during World War II, five months, Infantry #45017158. Discharged in 1945. Employed at International Harvester Co., Ft. Wayne. Reside in Swan, Ind. Four children:

Judith Arlene Pieper, born Apr. 28, 1940; baptized in St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1940.

Jerry Arthur Pieper, born Nov. 12, 1941; baptized in St. Paul's Church 1942.

Janet Sue Pieper, born Feb. 9, 1942; baptized in St. Paul's Church 1943.

Jeffrey Lynn Pieper, born Jan. 1, 1948; baptized Zion's Lutheran church 1948.

John Henry Everson, born Jan. 10, 1921; died Jan. 15, 1922. Buried Lehman Cemetery, Payne, O.

Maurice J. Everson, born Dec. 21, 1921; graduated South Side High School 1940; 1948 confirmed in St. Luke's Lutheran Church; Dec. 18, 1943, in Ft. Wayne, married Kathryn Fremion, daughter of Clarence and Helen Marie (Marshal) Fremion; born Apr. 11, 1920; graduated South Side High School 1938, and Beautician College in 1939. May, 1932, she was confirmed in Redemeer's Lutheran Church. Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind. He is a Pennsylvania Railroad employe and she is a beauty operator. Live at 3819 So. Barr St., Ft. Wayne, Ind. One child:

Ronald Clarence Everson, born Mar. 28, 1948, baptized June 20, 1948.

Keith Czerney Everson, born Jan. 13, 1923; graduated Central High School 1941; confirmed St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1952; Pennsylvania Railroad employe; Oct. 8, 1943, in Ft. Wayne, married to Grace Lewis, daughter of Charles and Jane (Butler) Lewis, born Oct. 7, 1925; graduated Central High School 1942; office worker; confirmed St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1939; now members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Address 1410 Kitch Ave., Ft. Wayne, Ind. 1 child:

Keith Lonnie Everson, born Aug. 29, 1951; baptized Nov. 1951.

Kenneth Neil Everson, born Jan. 11, 1924; died Jan. 29, 1924; buried Lehman Cemetery, Payne, Ohio.

Robert Leland Everson, born July 8, 1925; baptized 1949 Zion Lutheran Church; living at Fort Wayne State School, Carroll Cottage.

Chester Max Everson, born Aug. 21, 1926; graduated Central High School 1944; baptized Catholic Church of Army, Texas; serial No. 15346726, Army Air Force, P.F.C., discharged 1946; employed at Phelps Dodge Co. Jan. 2, 1947, in Precious Blood Catholic Church, Ft. Wayne, married Madonna Ruth Jordan, daughter of Henry and Agnes (Vachon) Jordan; born Dec. 4, 1928; graduated Central Catholic High School 1946; confirmed in Precious Blood Catholic Church in 1934; Attend Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Address 5210 Holton, Ft. Wayne, Ind. One child:

Linda Sue Everson, born Nov. 16, 1948; baptized Nov. 28, 1948.

Children of Lela May and Czerney Leora Everson, cont.

Ted Larry Everson, born June 25, 1932;graduated South Side High School 1950; Pennsylvania Railroad employe; Confirmed Catholic Church of the Army; June 14, 1952, in St. Peters Catholic Church, Ft. Wayne, married to Gilda May Hengsteler, daughter of Otto and Olga Hengsteler; born Nov. 18, 1932; graduated South Side High School 1950; confirmed St. Peters Catholic Church 1940; Attend St. Hyacinth Catholic Church. Served in Army Air Force, discharged in 1953.

Kimsey Conklin Everson, born Oct. 15, 1933; graduated Central High School 1951; Employed U. S. Rubber Co.; confirmed in St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1949. Sept. 13, 1952, in St. Peter's Catholic Church, Ft. Wayne, married Gaynetta Joyce Overmeyer, daughter of Gaylord and Callie (Rider) Overmeyer, born May 9, 1934; graduated New Haven High School 1952; confirmed St. Peter's Catholic Church 1944. Present address - Clay's Trailer Court, Ft. Wayne, Ind. One child.

Steven Gaylord Everson, born July 10, 1953; baptized in St. Peter's Catholic Church in August, 1953.

WILLAIM HENRY BIRKHOLD, born March 25, 1867, on the homestead farm southwest of Payne, O; Mar. 4, 1888, married Amanda Rosanna Miller, daughter of John Lawrence and Mahala (Anspach) Miller, of near Payne, born Sept. 25, 1868. They lived on a farm in Ohio 24 years, after which they moved to Edgerton, Ind., where they engaged in the grocery business for five years; from there they moved to St. Joseph County, Mich., and resided on a farm near Three Rivers for 9 years, then moved to Three Rivers and lived there 8 years; then for four years lived on their son Homer's farm just outside of Centreville. Both were confirmed in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Payne, O. and when they moved to Michigan transferred their membership to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Centreville, Mich., where they belonged until death. Both passed on in the home of their son Henry Owen-William dying Oct. 21, 1946, Amanda Dec. 19, 1946; both are buried in Prairie River Cemetery, Centreville, Mich. Issue, three sons.

1. HERMAN, b. Apr. 17, 1888 d. Dec. 28, 1890 Buried Lehman Cemetery, Payne, O.

2. HENRY OWEN, b. Sept. 25, 1889, in Paulding Co., raised on a farm in the vicinity of Payne; attended school in Smiley, also in Payne. Occupation farmer. Oct. 14, 1913, married Anna Marie Baumert, daughter of Charles and Anna Caroline (Krochl) Baumert, of Monroeville, Ind. Anna was born at Edgerton, Ind., Sept. 10, 1891, attended Ruch School in Jackson Twp., Allen County, Ind. Both were baptized and confirmed in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Payne, O. They lived on his father's farm for five years, then on the Charles Baumert farm 4 years, after which moved to Three Rivers, St. Joseph Co., Mich., where purchased a farm and still reside. Address, Box. 291, R. 2, Three Rivers, Mich. Three children 2 sons, 1 daughter.

HAROLD WILLIAM CARL, b. Aug. 2, 1914; graduated from Three Rivers High School in 1932; Mar. 8, 1934 married Ellen Marguerita Campbell, daughter of James and Pearl Pernina (Darrow) Campbell, of Centerville, Mich., who was born Sept. 6, 1917. Harold works for the Dr. Denton's Mills in Centreville. They live in their own home. Address, Centreville, Mich. Two children.

Peggy Lee, b. Mar. 24, 1935

Harold, Jr., b. Sept. 30, 1945

ROBERT OWEN, b. May 13, 1921; graduated from Three Rivers High School 1939; called to U. S. Army service Oct. 6, 1943, served 18 mos. in Germany in E.T.O., discharged Sept. 30, 1945. Sept. 27, 1941, married Anita Mae Zielke, born Feb. 26, 1920, daughter of Julius and Elizabeth (Bliss) Zielke, of Centreville, Mich. Robert employed at the American Coach Co., Cassopolis, Mich. Address, R. 2, Three Rivers.

Sherrie Ann, b. Oct. 12, 1942

Robert Owen, b. Jan. 10, 1944

Pamela Joy, b. July 5, 1946

DONNABELLE ROSANA, b. Feb. 10, 1926; graduated from Three Rivers High School 1945; Feb. 10, 1946, married John Francis Dillon, born Nov. 8, 1927, son of Francis and Matheran Marie (Pashby) Dillon, of Niles, Mich., who graduated from Three Rivers High School in 1944 and served in the U. S. Navy from Feb. 28, 1945, for 18 mos. Address, 901 E. Broadway, Three Rivers, Mich. 1 child.

Victoria Marie, b. Jan. 28, 1947

ALL CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN WERE BAPTIZED AND BELONG to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Centreville, Mich.

3. HOMER DAVID, b. Oct. 31, 1895, at Payne, O; grad. Payne High School 1914. Dec. 15, 1915, married Gladys Irene Stanger, at Hillsdale, Mich. Gladys b. Nov. 9, 1898, at Antwerp, O., daughter of Orley Neil and Rosetta Amanda (Hawk) Stanger. Members St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Centreville, Mich. Lived in Michigan since 191 . Address R. 1, Centreville, Mich.

FAMILY OF MARY ANN BIRKHOLD *STABLER

MARY ANN ("Molly") BIRKHOLD, b. Jan. 16, 1869, Oct. 9, 1890 married Samuel Peter Stabler; born July 12, 1866, son of Ephriam M. and Catherine (Lehman) Stabler. Farmer and thresher. After the death of her mother, then "Molly" was but 17 and she took over as homemaker and after her marriage her father made his home with them until his death. (See copy of her letter to Hattie Smith, at end of Family History). Sam. died Oct. 17, 1943, Lehman cemetery, Payne, Ohio. Molly continued to live in their Payne home until in she sold it and now enjoys visiting in the homes of her children. Five children. Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Payne, O. Buried Lehman Cemetery, Payne, O.

1. DESSIE CATHERINE STABLER, b. July 2, 1891, Payne, O. Member Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind. Dec. 29, 1912, license Paulding Co., O., married Harry Ellsworth Purvis, druggist, b. Jan. 15, 1891, son of Charles Granville and Cora Etta (Page) Purvis. Harry died Dec. 30, 1936, buried in Lutheran Cemetery, New Haven.
4 children: Harry Ellsworth, Jr., Kathleen Helen, Charles Grant and Daniel Edwin. Dessie m. Paul Emerson Miller, dentist, April 15, 1938. Address, 514 Broadway, New Haven, Ind.

HARRY ELLSWORTH, Jr., b. Dec. 21, 1913; Grad. New Haven H. S. 1932, Valpo U. 1937, B. S. Pharmacy. Served in Navy from Sept. 1943, to Jan. 1946. Member Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind. June 23, 1940, license St. Joseph Co., Ind., m. Vivian Lorraine Rodgers, b. Nov. 16, 1919, daughter of Virgil J. and Ada Aldorn (Carr) Rodgers, New Carlisle, Ind. Address: 739 Park Ave., New Haven, Ind. 2 children.

Linda Elaine, b. Sept. 9, 1947
Gregory Alan, b. June 4, 1950

KATHLEEN HELEN, b. April 27, 1918, Grad. New Haven H. S. 1936, Springfield, O., Nurses Tr., 1941, R. N. Member Lutheran Church, Marion, Ind. May 30, 1942, license Pensacola, Fla., m. Harry Adrian Wherry, Jr., son of Adrian and Ola Wherry, Convoy, O. Address 2414 South Adams St., Marion, Ind. 3 children.

Robert Paul, b. Sept. 14, 1946
Pamela Kathleen, b. Dec. 29, 1947, d. 3/22/1948. Buried in Lutheran Cemetery, New Haven, Ind.
Luanne Kay, b. March 25, 1949

CHARLES GRANT, b. Sept. 13, 1921, Grad. Concordia H. S. 1939; Ohio Northern 1948, B. S. Pharmacy. Served in Army from May, 1943, to Oct. 1945. Member Lutheran Church New Haven. Aug. 11, 1946, license Tippecanoe Co., Ind., m. Helen Louise Jones, b. May 16, 1925, daughter of Herbert Ray and Clara Bell (Boyd) Jones, W. Lafayette, Ind. Address: 625 Lincolnway, New Haven, Ind. 2 children.

Patti Jane, b. April 24, 1950
James Kevin, b. April 28, 1953

DANIEL EDWIN, b. March 14, 1924; Grad. New Haven H. S. 1942; Purdue U. 1947, B. S. Pharmacy; Served in Army from March, 1943, to Sept., 1945. Member Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind. June 16, 1944, license San Luis Obispo, California, m. Ruth Isabel Price, b. Nov. 3, 1924, daughter of George Edward and Ruth Isabel (Blair) Price, Toledo, O. Address: 1150 Elm St., New Haven, Ind. 2 children.

Daniel Edwin, Jr., b. Nov. 14, 1946
David Blair, b. Oct. 28, 1949

2. IRA ELLSWORTH STABLER, Born Dec. 8, 1892, Payne, O.. Graduated Payne High School 1912. Attended Capital University, Columbus, O., 1913; Ohio State University 1915-1916; Western Reserve University, Cleveland, O , 1917, there received degree Pharmaceutical Chemist, 1917; U. S. Army 1918-1919 World War I, serving in England and France. Pharmacist in Portland, Ind., 1919 to 1951, Postmaster Portland 1951. Sept. 14, 1923, married Gladys Francis, born April 17, 1896, daughter of Jacob R. and Alice (Bradley) Jones, who attended Portland public and high schools. Ira member Lutheran Church, Portland, Ind.; Gladys member Catholic Church, Portland, Ind. Address: 826 E. Main St., Portland, Ind. No children.

3. HARRY MATTHIAS STABLER, born Oct. 19, 1897, Payne, O. Graduated Capital University, Columbus, O., 1918, A. B. degree. Farmer. Oct. 6, 1920, married Esther Amelia White, born May 7, 1898, daughter of Philip and Sophia (Kubach) White, license Paulding Co., who graduated Payne High School 1917. Members Calvary Lutheran Church, Cromwell, Ind. Address: P. O. box 456, North Webster, Ind. Four children.

SAMUEL DAVID STABLER, born Dec. 12, 1921, Payne, O. Graduated Roanoke, Ind. High School 1940; attended International Business College, Ft. Wayne. Served in U. S. Navy 1942-1946. Member Lutheran Church, Cromwell, Ind. Address: Roanoke, Ind. Not married.

JOSEPH GENE STABLER, born Sept. 14, 1923; died Dec. 22, 1923. Buried in Lehman Cemetery, Payne, O.

HARRIETT ANN (STABLER) HINE, born May 22, 1925, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Graduated Roancke, Ind., High School 1943; attended Cadet Nurse Training Lutheran Hospital Ft. Wayne. 1946, license Huntington, married Joseph Hine, son of William and Blanche Hine, of Roanoke, Ind. Divorced in 1952. Four children. Address: P. O. 456, North Webster, Ind.

Rodney Joseph, born July 10, 1947
Timothy Allen, born Jan. 9, 1949
Cheryl Diane, born Feb. 22, 1950
Sanie Dee, born Dec. 12, 1951

THEODORE (TED) KAY STABLER, born June 21, 1928, Roanoke, Ind. Graduated Roanoke High School 1946. Served in U. S. Navy 1946-1948. Member Lutheran Church in Ft. Wayne. Aug. 5, 1950, married to Charlotte Scott, daughter of Ralph and Bonita Scott, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Address: 1310 Oakland, Ft. Wayne, Ind. 1 daughter.

Todie Kay, born May 6, 1953

4. CHARLES W. STABLER, born Mar. 22, 1901, Payne. O. Graduated Payne High School 1918; Ohio Northern University 1923, P.H.G. married Iowa M. McCoy, born in Malcolm, Iowa, May 11, 1911, daughter of Arden and Elizabeth (Dribelbeiss) McCoy, Waynedale, who graduated from Roanoke High School in 1928. Married Oct. 5, 1931, at Lutheran Parsonage, Huntington, Ind., license obtained in Ft. Wayne. Both belong to Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Waynedale, Ind. Live in Roanoke, Ind. Charles owns Stabler Drug Store there. Two children.

ANN ARDEN, born Aug. 25, 1937
JEAN ELLEN, born May 12, 1942

5. LALAH FLORENCE, born Aug. 16, 1905, Payne, O. Graduated Payne High School 1922. Nov. 25, 1926, at New Haven, Ind., married William Christian Bremer, born Nov. 3, 1902, New Haven, son of William Diedrich and Mary Caroline (Werling) Bremer. Address: New Haven, Ind., R.F.D. Members of Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind. 3 children.

WILLIAM ALLEN BREMER , born Aug. 30, 1927, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Graduated New Haven High School 1946; May 14, 1949, in Fort Wayne, Ind. married Margaret Susan Kneller, born Jan. 21, 1930, daughter of Herman W. and Katherine (Schlandroff) Kneller. Address. New Haven, Ind. R. R. 2. Two children.

William Harold, born Dec. 13, 1950
Janet Marie, born Apr. 9, 1952

EUGENE LESLIE, born July 25, 1929, New Haven; graduated New Haven High School 1948. Entered U. S. Army Jan. 29, 1952; now serving in Alaska, "acting corporal", has the privileges of a corporal and wears the stripe but does not get the pay, so is still PFC - says not been PFC long enough to make regular corporal but does not have any more K.P. duty and, of course, likes that. Aug. 5, 1950, married Thelma Lucille Parker, born Sept. 27, 1931, daughter of Harold P. and Berneice (Louden) Parker. Home address: New Haven, Ind. R. R. 2.

MARY ANN BREMER, born Jan. 4, 1932; graduated New Haven High School 1949. At home. Address: New Haven, Ind., R. R. 2.

BIRKHOLD

From a History of the Genus by A. Ritz

The family Birkhold belongs to the oldest genus in Steinheim. The name evolved from Birchtel (1471) and Buerchtel (1586) to Birchholt (1650) and Birkhold (1691). However, it is written in the baptismal register of 1731 by the ceremonious Vicar of Osiander as "Buerckholltz", his successor "Buerghold", and a member of the genus himself underwrote it in 1772 on an estimate of damage caused to corn by fire as "Johannes Georg Buerckhold".

At the end of the Thirty Years War we find in Steinheim the shoemaker Hans Birkhold (died aged 65 in 1667) with his two sons Georg and Johann Michael. These are the roots of the entire modern Birkhold family.

A. The Trunk Of Georg

Georg died in 1703 as a shoemaker at the age of 72; he also had as a lad lived through the hard times of 1634-48. He was later able to recount to his children how, at that time, murder and conflagration had spread from Noerdlingen to Ulm and Stuttgart; how the people of Sontheim and Soehnstett came fleeing to Steinheim from their completely fire-gutted villages; how nowhere a bell pealed, for one saw instead only soldiers marching along. Moreover, on Sunday no one would go into the church. Why, then, not? Because there were no more Vicars! It came to pass that a Catholic chaplin from Koenigsbronn came there for the land should once again become Catholic, but no one went with him into the church. It was believed that the baptising of new-born children would protect them from the dead for it brought much bad luck if a child died un-baptised. But yet many carried their children to the rotting imperial free-city of Flecken, sometimes to Altheim. A few didn't even shun the road through Muenster to Ulm. Also, as no one would appear at the burials, the chaplin and therewith the Catholic administrator of Heidenheim locked the churchyard, so the people of Steinheim buried their dead in the garden or the field.

"O, it was an evil time, and it is to be hoped that the people for all the future are spared the madness of war." We don't know whether Georg Birkhold had indeed had these hopes. But if he had them, then in the last decades of his life he had been undeceived of the evil. In 1653 he had a wedding performed with his contemporary Anna Fachnle (died aged 41 years in 1672). His children were called:

Walburga, born 1655, at the death of her father, she became the wife of the potter Joerg Goeltz in Boll.

Magdalena, born 1659, in Steinheim, wife of the potter Hans Falk, who probably came from Gussenstadt.

Johannes, born 1661, "so made himself a citizen of Braunschweig."

Joerg, born 1670, "who had been forceably inducted into the travelling military service and perished on the Rhein before approximately ten years (counting backwards from the death of the father)."

Since Joerg Birkhold had consequently gone on the journeys, as he was suited for an honourable travelling companion, he had been thereby somewhere "pressed" to the soldiers. For the German government needed soldiers because the French King, the power-mad Louis XIV, had posted his generals over the Rhein, the Mosle to Swabia, another to Pfalz,

and the ruins of Hagoldtal, the "Women of Schorndorf" and the ruined Heidelberg castle yet today mark the road that the robber hoards took. And in this Battle of the Rhein did Joerg Birkhold consequently perish.

But even ten years later his father had to see the French lodged in the Land, and, of course, with his nearest neighbors. In 1702 in the course of the Spanish War of Succession a French army again stepped over the Rhein, this time allied to the Elector of Bavaria - one must accustom oneself to the unusual transitions in German politics. It was only the Reich-city of Ulm which stood in the way of the fraternization of the French with the Bavarians. However on the 8. September 1702, a market day, the Elector of Bavaria succeeded in a mortal blow: disguised as peasants he smuggled soldiers into the city; they overwhelmed the gate watch on the bridge over the Danube and, in the meantime, opened the gate for the oncoming Bavarian army. And now the French have been lodged in the region for nearly two years in the evilest manner. The supervisor of Koenigsbronn, the administrator of the foundry, employed all means in his power to keep them out. He called together all the workmen from the Nattheim-Oggenhauser mine and with them and his Koenigsbronn "Laboratory assistants" altogether they barricaded the approach to Koenigsbronn, and stood watch in the woods day and night; he ordered the "Schnapphanen" polished off wherever they appeared. But in the unarmed district they lodged unhindered. We find their signs even in such high places as the Kerben palace, see paragraph 29. Not until the glorious victory of Prinz Eugen, "the gentle knight", in the summer of 1704 at Hoechstaedt on the Danube did this misery come to an end.

Georg Birkhold, the father, was no longer alive on this day; he died on 29. December 1703. "Epidemic", i.e., virulent influenza, from which so many others also fell in the winter months, was named the cause of death. But the summer and fall of each year brought innumerable casualties on the "red Ruhr", particularly among the young. Perhaps this red Ruhr bears witness to the malnutrition of the times, to the ravished, destroyed region.

After the death of his first wife Georg Birkhold took a second wife, Anna Falk of Gussenstadt (died: aged 58 on 9. July 1703). This second wife gave birth to two children: Kaspar, born 1677, the representative in Steinheim, and Anna, born 1684, who in 1712 became the wife of Georg Pfitzer a day labourer from Lauterburg, and this brings the genus back to Steinheim.

Kasper, 1677-1738, is a shoemaker like his father and many of descendents, and in 1698 he wed Walburga, 1672-1742, the daughter of potter Johannes Beurer, whom he brought from Heidenheim. Children:

Anna Barbara, born 1700, in 1723 wed Johann Jakob Wannenwetsch, Potter. Without modern descendents.

Johann Georg, 1710-79, Shoemaker, in 1768 he probably announced the marriage of his daughter Katharina, 1738-85, with carpenter Jakob Kaelble of Braeunisheim (Geislingen).

David, 1712-85, Shoemaker, in 1736 married Critina Elisbet Frank of Koenigsbronn (died: aged 72 in 1785).

Children:
Katharina R[illegible], born 1743, in 1763 married Konrad Zimmermann, Potter. Descendents by Konold in Koenigsbronn.
Johann Jakob, born 1745, Shoemaker in Dinkelsbuehl.
Christina Elisabet, 1749-1814, had in 1778 a son David Nissle, founding father of the Nissle genus.
Johann Georg, 1747-1824, Shoemaker, in 1776 married Anna Maria Beurer, 1752-1823.

Children:
Walburga, born 1785, in 1818 married Wilhelm Bohner, Forester in Bartholomae.
Johann Friedrich, 1778-1818, Shoemaker, in 1809 married Regina Katharina Scheuerle, 1786-1818. The two children of these couples, Johann Friedrich, born 1811, and Anna Maria, born 1818, were married together in 1840 in Heidenheim, Anna Maria to the tailor Johann Leonhard Doerner.
Three further sons of Johann Georg, Johannes, born 1777, Johann Jakob, born 1780, and Christian, born 1788, founded three branches of this trunk.

I The Branch Of Johannes

Johannes, 1777-1857, Shoemaker, in 1806 married Katharine Zimmermann, 1786-1861.

1) Katharina, born 1807, in 1833 married Matthaeus Wennenwetsch, Potter. Modern descendents are the Wennenwetsches of the Potter-lineage.
2) Anna Maria, born 1812, in 1844 married Johann Georg Rau, Baker. Without descendents.
3) Johann Georg, 1810-77, Shoemaker, in 1845 married Margarete Kaufman, 1814-94.
Children:
Maria Barbara, born 1849, in 1876 married Matthaeus Hofele.
Johann Georg, born 1850, Shoemaker, in 1878 married Katharina Schiefele of Gussenstadt, born 1856. Moved to Heidenheim with their four children (Johann Georg, born 1879; Maria, born 1884; Paul, born 1886; Hans, born 1888) in 1892.
Margarete, born 1857, in 1888 in Heidenheim married Christian Staengle.
4) Johannes, 1806-67, Shoemaker, in 1836 married Maria Barbara Althammer, 1803-82, widow of Johann Georg Knoblauch.
Children:
Maria Barbara, born 1837, emigrated to America.
Anna Maria, born 1842, in 1871 married Johannes Niederberger, Weaver.
Katharina, born 1844, in 1866 married Christian Junginger, Shoemaker.
Johannes, 1839-1903, Shoemaker, in 1866 married Anna Maria Frey, 1843-1928. Of eight children remains:
Hans, 1877-1947, Shoemaker, in 1906 married Katharina Banzhof, 1883-1946

Children:
Hans, born 1908, Cabinet maker in Stuttgart, in 1937 married Luise Marie Kayser, born 1907 in Boeblingen. Hans was among the missing in WW II and was confirmed dead in 1953. His widow went with her daughter Hannelore back to Steinheim.
Albert, born 1913, in 1940 was likewise married in Stuttgart.
Richard, born 1915, Shoemaker at Wiereter, in 1946 married Berta Belg, born 1920 in Bartenbach (Goeppingen).

5) Johann Jakob, 1814-64, Shoemaker, in 1842 married Anna Katharina Faehnle, 1820-93. Of nine children remain:
Johann Jakob, born 1851, Locksmith in Winnenden and Stuttgart.
Katharina, born 1853, wife of the locksmith Friedrich Mueller in Winnenden.
Pauline, born 1856, in Stuttgart in 1887 married Georg Michael Engel, Officeworker.

II The Branch Of Johann Jakob

Johann Jakob, 1780-1847, Weaver, in 1809 married Rosine Basler of Steinheim, 1784-1845. Children:

1) Katharina, born 1810, in 1839 married Johann Friedrich Zimmermann, Weaver.
2) Johann Georg, 1819-95, Weaver, in 1854 married Rosine Preissing, 1826-59. Second marriage with Johanna Friderike Helmer of Oberboebingen, 1827-87.
Of their children Rosine, born 1851 married an ironworker, Friedrich Weber in Koenigsbronn.
Adolf, born 1861, is caretaker of the forest in the Marbaechle district of Oberrot (Gaildorf). Friedrich, 1857-1938, in 1887 married Maria Bihr of Bartholomae, 1859-1945.
Children:
Anna, born 1883, in Heidenheim in 1909 married Gottlob Riek, Modelmaker.
Karl, born 1888, 1917 Heidenheim.
Rosine, born 1892, in 1922 married Gottlieb Kern, Shoemaker.
Marie, 1900-51, Spinster.
3) Johannes, 1815-90, Weaver, in 1852 married Dorothea Mack, 1815-1901. Children:
Rosina, born 1847, in 1872 married Christof Elsenhans.
Friedrich, born 1850, 1878 Koenigsbronn.
Johannes, born 1849, 1869 America.
Two further sons, Jakob, born 1843, and Johann Georg, born 1846, founded two lines of the branch.

1. The Line of Jakob

Jakob, 1843-1922, Weaver, in 1872 married Maria Elisabet Schmid, 1845-1913. Children:
Johann Georg, born 1867, died in Heidenheim in 1911, Carpenter in Zuerich.
Anna Katharina, born 1874, in 1906 married Johann Georg Kopp.
Anna Margareta, born 1877, in 1906 married Georg Zimmermann, Coppersmith in Heidenheim.
Jakob, born 1880, married in Tettnang.

Hans, born 1872, Street attendent, in 1898 married Margareta Gaiser, born 1874. Children:
Albert, born 1895, died 1918 in the Field Hospital, Tagenrot, on the Black Sea.
Pauline, born 1897, in 1921 married Paul Elsenhans.
Paul, born 1907, Farmer and Forester, in 1936 married Marie Gnaier, born 1909.

2. The Line of Johann Georg

Johann Georg, 1846-1923, in 1877 married Anna Margareta Langenbucher, 1945-1917. Children:
Johann Georg, born 1875, Hunter in Hall, in 1907 married Karoline Hanselmann of Obersteinbach (Oehringen).
Paul, 1872-1947, Factory Worker, in 1902 married Pauline Kolb, 1874-1903. Second marriage with Marie Karch, 1873-1953. Children:
Paul, born 1902, Sawmill Worker, in 1934 married Emma Stieff, born 1909. Son Paul, born 1935, Carpenter at Hermann Frueholz.
Karl, 1904, Smith at Walsenmaier, in 1945 married Irma Gutwin, born 1921 in Eigenfeld (Ukraine).
Marie, born 1906, in 1933 married Georg Stieff, Cabinet Maker, brother of Emma.

III The Branch of Christian

Christian, 1788-1849, Shoemaker, in 1815 married Anna Maria Schleicher, 1792-1857. Children:
Andreas, 1816-87, Shoemaker, in 1851 married Regina Margareta Krauss, 1828-83. Son Christian, born 1863, Teacher.
Johann Georg, 1817-75, Weaver, in 1851 married Anna Maria Algeier, 1826-1907. Daughter Anna Magdalena, born 1856, in 1879 married August Friedrich Fruholz, Carpenter.
Anna Maria, born 1819, in 1845 married Johannes Elsenhans, Weaver, moved to America.
* Johann Matthaeus, born 1821, Weaver, in 1848 married Anna Barbara Schuon, 1826. Moved in 1853 with their three children (Maria Katharina, born 1847; Christian, born 1850; Matthaeus, born 1852) to America.
Anna Magdalena, born 1823, in Bartholomae in 1848 married Wilhelm Holz, Tailor.
Agnes, born 1824, in 1851 married Karl August-Schmid, Tailor.

* Follow in your Birkhold Family History.